Volume XVIII, Issue No. 127 TUESDAY MAY 6, 2008 www.saipantribune.com 50¢



### **OPINION METER**

#### This week's poll:

Do you plan to visit the Taste of the Marianas festival this year?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com

### INSIDE



### Saipan's Finest

"Saipan's Finest" prevailed in last Friday's Business Concept Competition at the Northern Marianas College by winning first place.

### **BUSINESS...Page 14**



### Cyclone Aftermath

A powerful cyclone killed more than 350 people and destroyed thousands of homes in Burma.

ASIA...Page 16



### **Boat Sinks**

A boat ferrying at least 80 people home from a party sank in Brazil's Amazon region early Sunday, killing at least 15.

WORLD...Page 17

165 miss financial disclosure deadline. PAGE 2
Firm said interested in Hollywood Theatres. PAGE 3

# Power rates, govt fees go up

Governor approves CUC revenue generating bill

- Suspends power rate rollback law
- Reduces CUC's \$11M shortfall
- Eases quorum requirements for PUC
- Reduces govt Fund contribution rate to 11%
- Grants governor broad reprogramming powers
- Increases govt fees for licenses
- Applies gross business tax to banks

By AGNES E. DONATO agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com REPORTER

ov. Benigno R. Fitial has signed into law the omnibus bill that provides the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. cash for fuel.

The measure, now Public Law 16-2, is seen to help CUC reduce its expected shortfall of \$11.3 million by Sept. 30, 2008.

The legislation suspends up to Dec. 31, 2008, the power rates rollback, which has caused CUC a monthly shortfall of \$1 million in fuel costs alone.

See POWER on Page 4

# Man dies in hit-and-run

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.co



Nonan

A 41-year-old man was killed in a hitand-run accident along Isa Drive in Sadog Tasi Sunday early morning.

Grande C. Nonan, a Filipino, suffered head trauma and extensive

lacerations in his upper and lower body. He was pronounced dead at 5:25am, ac-

See MAN on Page 4

# Fitial tells Bush of concerns over Pew's proposal

By AGNES E. DONATO

agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has asked President Bush to reject a proposal to create a marine national monument in the northern islands.

Fitial in a letter



itial

to Bush said the designation "would, in my view, greatly reduce or eliminate the ability of the See FITIAL on Page 4

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Hundreds of Hopwood Junior High School students cheer as they participate in the school's first Health/Wellness/Career/Walkathon and Fair. The event, participated by 1,076 Hopwood students, aims to promote healthy eating, physical fitness, boost students' awareness of family issues, domestic violence, mental and emotional health and to motivate students for their future career goals. The presenters and exhibitors are DPH-Community Guidance Center, Diabetes Coalition, Ayuda Network, Family Violence Task Force, Trench Tech Inc., Sports Federation and Hyatt Club Elan, Seventh Day Adventist, Take Care FHP, Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Developmental Disabilities Council and Assistive Technology, Family Hope Center, DYS Child Protective Unit, American Red Cross, PHI

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## Local

# 165 miss financial disclosure deadline

The Office of the Public Auditor has reported that 165 government officials have not filed their financial disclosure statements for 2007.

OPA data show that 509 officials are required to file the financial statements. Of these, 334 met the May 1 deadline, and 10 more have filed as of yesterday noon.

Public Auditor Michael S. Sablan said that 165 violators of the Ethics Act requirement is too many.

He said OPA had made numerous efforts to remind the filers of the requirement. Filers are offered free notary service and help with filling out the forms. Last week, OPA sent staff to accept filings in Rota and Tinian.

Filers have until May 31 to submit their documents. Beginning June 1, late filers will be assessed a \$10 fine for each day

Those required to file financial disclosures include elected officials, judicial officers, appointed department and agency heads, board and commission members, and others.

Government employees who receive additional compensation for rendering services or who serve as an independent contractor for the Commonwealth government are also required to

disclose their financial interests.

They are required to submit financial disclosure statements to demonstrate any possible conflict of interest in the performance of their official duties.

Unlike in many other jurisdictions, local law does not provide for financial statements to be made public. OPA can only release the documents with consent from the filer. (Agnes E.

### **Engine problem forces load shedding**

As a result of mechanical problems on Engine No. 3 at Power Plant 1, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. was unable to generate sufficient electrical power to meet the island demand yesterday.

The problems were affecting the performance of the engine. To prevent further damage to

the unit, it was immediately shut down and Power Plant 1 initiated the contingent load-shedding schedule at 8am. The load shedding was scheduled to continue until midnight last night.

CUC said its operators would make all efforts to in-

See ENGINE on Page 4

### May 12-16 is Marianas March Against Cancer Week



retary Joseph Kevin Villagomez, Commonwealth Cancer Association's Alex Sablan, Dr. Jack Hardy, Marianas March Against Cancer chair David Rosario, MMAC committee members, Northwest Airlines representatives, advocates and survivors shortly after the proclamation signing ceremony declaring May 12-16, 2008 as "Marianas March Against Cancer Week" at the Northwest Airlines check-in counter of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport yesterday.

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN

Lt. Gov. Tim P. Villagomez has proclaimed the week of May 12-16 as Marianas March Against

Tired of

Living in the

Dark?

Cancer Week.

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez, Commonwealth Cancer Association vice chair Alex Sablan, Marianas March Against Cancer chair

David Rosario and other members of the MMAC and CCA witnessed the proclamation signing that was held yesterday morning at the Northwest Airlines check-in counter at the

Saipan International Airport.

Northwest Airlines is the title sponsor of the MMAC event, along with Duty Free Shoppers, PTI, Joeten Charitable Foundation, Bank of Guam, Sorensen Media Saipan, Power 99 and 97.9 The KAT.

Cancer survivor Dr. Jon Joyner read the proclamation before the endorsement. He read that the week dedicated to the Marianas March Against Cancer in intended to create heightened awareness of cancer.

'Cancer is the second leading cause of death for men and women in the CNMI. Because cancer does not discriminate by age, gender, or race, it is important to know that the sooner cancer is found and treatment begins, the better of the chances of living for many years," Joyner read.

"Everyone is encouraged to fight against the deadly disease by participating in the upcoming Marianas March Against Cancer," he added.

The 2008 Marianas March will be held at the Hopwood Junior High School Track & Field in Chalan Piao on May 16-17 from 6pm to 6am.

The lieutenant governor encourages all members of the community to celebrate the week by honoring survivors of cancer and commemorating those who have passed away and learning as much as possible on how to prevent this deadly disease.

"What I look forward to about MMAC is despite the difficulties and challenges, there is always a positive atmosphere among those who choose to be a part of this," Villagomez said. "I would like to issue a challenge to each resident of the Commonwealth for this year's march—be a part of it."

Breast cancer survivor Nora Sablan is encouraging other survivors of the disease to take part in the MMAC events and activities coming up.

On May 7, an orientation dinner at the Fiesta Resort at 6:30pm will be provided for all cancer survivors who wish to attend. Seats are limited so please contact the Survivors Committee Chairwoman Nora Sablan at 235-0998 or via email at norasablan@gmail.com to confirm your attendance.



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- hour at the Chambre Bar
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# **WASC** team on island to evaluate Hopwood

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN Rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Members of a visiting team from the Western Association of Accrediting Schools and Colleges are currently doing a two-day review on the accreditation status of Hopwood Junior High School, whose six-year accreditation expires this year.

Robert Maez, chairperson of the accrediting team, arrived on Sunday with members Richard Anbe and Roberta Abaday. They met with parents of HJHS students that same evening.

Yesterday, the team met with PSS officials Tim Thornburgh, Federal Programs adviser, and Charles Kenty, who is associate commissioner for Administrative Services and

According to HJHS principal Christine Tudela-Masga, the WASC representatives are also inquiring about the school's academic programs and available resources. They will also offer recommendations that would help the school maintain its accreditation.

"It's all part of the accreditation process," she said.

The WASC representatives are scheduled to present their report of their findings and recommendations this afternoon at 3pm at the Hopwood campus.

uled to leave later tonight while Maez will remain on island to visit the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, Marianas

High School and Garapan Elementary School. Other schools that will be vis-

ited by the accrediting team this year are San Vicente Elementary School, Oleai Elementary School, Rota Junior High, and Sinapalo Elementary School.

Last month, WASC representatives visited the Northern Marianas College and Tanapag Elementary School.



Western Association of Schools and Colleges representatives Robert Maez. Richard Anbe and Roberta Abaday work on completing the report for the accreditation of Hopwood Junior High School during their on-site visit to the school campus yesterday.

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## Company said to be interested in taking over Hollywood Theatres

By MARK RABAGO

ASSISTANT FDITOR

A company led by Los Angeles-based talk show host Steve Mason is interested in operating the Hollywood Theaters, which last April 17 decided to close for a month.

Mason, president of Flagship

Theatres, said his company has entered informal talks with Oregon-based Wallace Theatres Corp. to reopen the seven-theater cinema complex.

Wallace Theatres is the owner of Hollywood Theaters.

Flagship Theatres owns the University Village Theatres near downtown Los Angeles and Cinemas Palme d'Or in Palm Desert, California.

Mason

Toyota bucks trend;

Mason, for his part, is a host for 710 ESPN Radio. He has previously hosted the nationally syndicated "The Late, Late Radio Show with Tom Snyder & Steve Mason" for CBS Radio

By MARK RABAGO

mark rabago@saipantribune.com

Market leader Toyota and three

other automakers bucked the

trend by registering increased

sales of new cars in April even

as the Commonwealth Auto

Dealers Association sold 31

Toyota saw three additional new car sales last month as it

sold 27 units compared to 24

during the same period last

year—an increase of 12.5 per-

cent. The 27 units represent

34.78 percent of the market.

Broken down, the Japanese auto

giant sold 18 cars, five sports

utility vehicles, three vans, and

Not to be outdone, Nissan recorded a 42.86-percent in-

crease in new car sales in April

2008 as it disposed of 10 units

compared to seven in April

2007. The 10 units equal 10.14

percent of the market and is broken down to five cars, four

Honda and Hyundai also re-

ported relative spikes in new car

sales last month of 50 percent to

three units and 20 percent to six

one truck last month.

SUVs, and one van.

units, respectively.

used cars last month.

and worked the last five Olympic Games for NBC and Westwood One Radio Network.

Mason and the company's vice president Brian Tabor founded Flagship Theater Corporation in 1994.

The Saipan Tribune e-mailed and left a message for Wallace Theatres vice president for mar-

> keting Heather Wright, but she has yet to respond to the e-mail or return the call as of press time.

> Hollywood Theunexpectedly closed its doors last April 18, leaving the CNMI without a cinema for the first time

in nine years. In an e-mail, Wallace Theatres said that Hollywood Theaters will discontinue operations for 30 days after the last showing in the evening of April 17 and then re-evaluate whether it is still eco-

nomically feasible to continue. economy and rising operation-

Mazda, Kia, and Ford, mean-

while, posted negative growth

last month as the three automak-

ers' new car sales dropped 77.78

percent, 50 percent, and 25 per-

The three makes, however,

fared much better than Chevro-

let, Mitsubishi, Isuzu, Suzuki,

and Subaru as the five had no

CADA, meanwhile, saw 31

second-hand cars driven out

from their showrooms and

parking lots last month. Triple

J Motors and Microl Corp. tied

new car sales in April 2008.

cent, respectively.

al costs led to the company's temporarily halting operational at the seven-theater Hollywood Theaters.

"Unfortunately, Saipan's lackluster economy has resulted in low attendance levels and many operating expenses have significantly increased over the last year. We are closing the doors for one month and will review the financial situation again before coming to a longterm decision," she wrote.

Hollywood Theater-Saipan Megaplex, located next to Price Costco, opened with much fanfare in Sept. 8, 1999.

During its first week of operation, the venue showed Deep Blue Sea, Haunting, Iron Giant, Mystery Men, Bowfinger, American Pie, Thomas Crown, and Miss Kristina Moran.

Currently showing at Hollywood Theater are Leatherheads, Nim's Island, Superhero Movie, Drillbit Taylor, Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!, Never Back Down, Wright said the island's bad 10,000 B.C., College Road Trip, and Definitely, Maybe.

Year to date, the three auto-

After absorbing a 23-percent

decrease last month, the three

automobile dealers in the Com-

monwealth saw its profit mar-

gins take a hit following a 14-

unit drop in new car sales to 55 from 69 new cars disposed of in

Joeten Motors is the distribu-

tor for Nissan, Ford, Honda, and

Kia. Microl Corp. sells Toyota

and Chevrolet. Triple J Motors

mobile dealers have sold 141

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for the top with 13 units sold, peddles Mazda, Hyundai, Mit-

while Joeten Motors had five subishi, and Suzuki.

# Muna wants high performance from CUC

New Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Antonio Muna is optimistic that the financially troubled situation at CUC can be turned around.

In a press conference, Muna said he had a meeting with CUC managers and financial personnel yesterday and he just realized that the agency has the necessary assets and that it is just a matter of giving the staff the proper direction.

"As we go through this process of

Muna

assessment, my optimism is going to We want to quantify it. We want to increase, hopefully as we go on," said Muna, who assumed as replacement for Anthony C. Guerrero effective yesterday.

> The executive director said CUC personnel will see performance from him and that he also expects that from all the staff.

"Performance. That's the bottom line. We've got to perform," Muna stressed.

He said he would be the first one to get out from CUC

if he feels he is not adequate for the job. "It's going to be above performance. communicate it. We're going to expect it that they (personnel) achieve whatever performance goals everyone is given," Muna said.

With respect to the ongoing rehabilitation at the power plants, Muna said he wants to ensure that the timeline that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial stated in the State of the Commonwealth Address will be followed and that the contractor's work will stay as scheduled.

"We're not just looking at this from a day-to-day process. We're looking at it as projected out for the next six to 12 months. Our findings will be communicated to the public and that's what we intend to do," he said.

On his appointment, Muna said it came as a request from Fitial.

"As far as my standpoint, it's just answering the call for public service," he said.

Muna said he believes that his 20 years' experience in managing, accounting, and public service will help him in his new position.

Muna had resigned as budget official for the Fitial administration in December 2007, but stayed on as a financial adviser to the governor.

### **ENGINE**

From Page 2

clude only areas identified in the contingent load shedding schedule. However, should the power plant require to take additional power demand offline, other areas of the grid will be affected.

#### **Contingent Power Outage Schedule**

8am-10am Feeder-2: Second Partial (Beach Road Garapan at Kristo Rai Church south to San Jose intersection)

10am-12pm Kiya-1: Lateral (Joeten Commercial Complex [CUC, Joeten Grocery, PHI Pharmacy, CNMI Revenue and Taxation, Department of Public lands] Kannat Tabla and the Stanford Hotel area

Feeder-1: Individual Street (Upper China Town, Upper MIHA in Garapan) Feeder-3: Laterals (Taro Sue to por-

tions of China Town)

12pm-2pm Feeder-4: Second Partial

(Portions of Capital Hill, Kagman and Papago)

2pm-4pm Feeder-7: Entire Grid (Lower Base industrial area, north to Tanapag, Achucagao, San Roque, As Matuis and Marpi)

4pm-6pm Kiya-1: Second Partial (Lower Dandan, Isley Field, CPA/Airport, As Perdido)

6pm-8pm Kiya-4: Second Partial (Mount Carmel south to portions of Chalan Kanoa and Chalan Kiya vil-

8pm-10pm Kiya-2: Second Partial (Koblerville, As Gonno, San Antonio and Afetnas)

10pm-12am Feeder-7: Entire Grid (Lower Base industrial area, north to Tanapag, Achugao, San Roqaue, as Matuis and Marpi)

CUC said it would make all efforts to keep this schedule. It may be modified, however, in future public notices. In addition, the schedule may be altered to address particular emergencies when necessary.

## Driving without license now a civil offense

A new law has reclassified driving without license, formerly a crime of misdemeanor, as a civil offense.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has approved the legislation, which is seen to save the courts an undetermined amount of money.

"I agree with the findings of the Legislature that due to the nature of the offense, driving without immediate possession of a valid license should be a civil offense instead of a misdemean-

or," Fitial said.

He added, "I am aware that offenders end up with a criminal record, which can be considered a heavy punishment since the offense lacks a victim. I appreciate that by turning this crime into a civil offense, the government will save money from having to appoint attorneys to represent indigent offenders," he added.

Under the new law, a person caught driving without a license will simply have to pay up to \$50 for the first offense, and up to \$100 for any second or subsequent offense.

In other news, the governor also signed into law a bill including electrical upgrades to the projects covered by a previous \$1.2-million appropriation for the Tinian High School.

The lawmakers say the upgrade is needed to accommodate the school's increased voltage requirements. (Agnes E. Donato)

### **FITIAL**

From Page 1

CNMI government to carefully balance cultural, environmental, and economic considerations in the region in an open and inclusive manner."

The governor noted that his position is shared by most lawmakers, who recently adopted a resolution opposing the proposed marine sanctuary.

But Angelo Villagomez, a local coordinator of Pew Charitable Trusts, which has made the proposal, said much of the opposition to the marine monument is based on misinformation. He said that Pew will continue its efforts to educate the public on the proposal.

Fitial outlined his concerns about the plan to designate a Mariana Trench Marine National Monument around the islands of Uracas, Maug, and Asun-

He spoke of the longstanding dispute between the U.S. and CNMI governments over the ownership and manage-

ment of submerged lands around the Northern Marianas. He said the CNMI remains firm that submerged lands belong the local people.

He is also concerned that the designation would restrict the indigenous people's ability to fish and conduct related activities in the proposed site. "We rely on fishing as a source of food and jobs. Those who live in the CNMI have no interest in ceding their cultural heritage to the federal government under the auspices of environmental protectionism," he said.

The governor argued that the Commonwealth is looking at fishery as an economic growth engine to replace the declining garment and tourism industries. He said the loss of about 115,000 square miles of ocean area due to inclusion in a national monument would significantly impact this economic effort.

Further, the governor said, Hawaii's experience with its marine monument showed a lack of procedural safeguards to ensure public involvement and environmental review during the designation process.

Press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said that federal enforcement funding may be a concern. He said the U.S. Coast Guard was not given any additional money or resources to extend patrols in Hawaii's monument area, and a similar scenario is likely if a Northern Marianas monument is created.

Reyes also elaborated on the governor's statement: "The people of the CNMI and their elected leaders do not want an outside group to permanently force a decision on them without their consent. This decision is too important to be left to Pew and their supporters. The people of the CNMI must decide if they want to give up a resource forever and forego all other opportunities or developments. This is democracy."

But Villagomez assured the governor that local citizens would have opportunity to participate in the designation process.

"He [Fitial] would be happy to know

that in Hawaii over 100,000 comments helped to shape the initial stages of the NWHI [Northwestern Hawaiian Islands] Monument and over 50,000 comments from locals on the draft management plan and there will be additional comment periods for further rule changes. President Bush has committed to an open process here, just like in Hawaii," Villagomez said.

He also expressed hope that Fitial would change his mind once he had a chance to sit in one of Pew's presentations himself.

According to Villagomez, more information on the Pew proposal will be made public soon. Economic and scientific studies are expected this month. Individuals involved in the Hawaii designation are coming on May 19 to meet with the local community.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business organization in the islands, threw its support behind the Pew proposal yesterday.

"We wholeheartedly support any proposal that allows the Common-

wealth substantive participation in, and ultimate approval of, the design and execution of a concept that would preserve our environment, increase global awareness of the islands, respect local culture, and benefit our economy," Chamber president James T. Arenovski said in a letter to Jay Nelson, director of Pew's Ocean Legacy Project.

Pete A. Tenorio, the CNMI's resident representative to Washington, D.C., on Friday backed continued dialogue with the federal government on Pew's proposal.

Despite the "untimely" rejection by some sectors, Tenorio said, the proposal has benefited the CNMI by getting the community talking about the resources in the northern islands and how best to deal with them.

"As so eloquently expressed by many of our residents who supported the Pew's proposal, I too believe that we should not lose the opportunity to resume a dialogue with the federal government on the proposed plan," he said.

### MAN

From Page 1

cording to the Department of Public Safety yesterday.

DPS spokesperson Lei Ogumoro said the vehicle was described as a beige or dark brown sports utility vehicle.

The DPS Traffic Investigation Unit

is seeking the community's assistance for information about the driver of the killer vehicle.

Ogumoro said that traffic and patrol officers were dispatched to Isa Drive after DPS received a report of the incident on Sunday at 3:16am. Medics and traffic investigators were summoned to

According to a witness, she and her friend, Nonan, were walking uphill using the eastbound shoulder of the road. Nonan was walking several feet in front of the witness.

As the two were passing the former L&T barracks, the witness observed an SUV speeding downhill, running off the highway, and hitting

The witness was saved from being hit by the speeding vehicle because she was able to dart toward a fence line.

After the collision, the vehicle fled from the scene, heading west.

Ogumoro said that, at the time, the weather was clear and the road surface, including the shoulder of the highway, was dry.

The NMI Crime Stoppers Program is offering up to \$1,000 cash reward to anyone who can provide information leading to the driver's arrest.

Nonan is the third vehicular accident

fatality in the CNMI this year.

On April 19, a 10-year-old boy was killed when a bicycle he was driving collided with a vehicle in lower Dandan Homestead.

On Feb. 8, a 65-year-old Chinese man died when a pickup truck hit him as he was crossing Middle Road in Garapan.

In 2007, four people were killed in separate vehicular crashes.

### **POWER**

From Page 1

But Tony Muna, the newly appointed CUC executive director, said that even if new rates are applied immediately, it may take CUC some time to see the benefits. There is a lag time of about 45 to 60 days between CUC's billing date and the final deadline for customer payment.

CUC's next tanker fuel delivery is

expected in three weeks, he noted.

The new law allows the Public Utilities Commission to issue emergency and interim power rates. It eases the quorum requirements for PUC, allowing the regulatory board to set rates even if there is only one commissioner.

The new law also incorporates fiscal measures such as the reduction of the government's pension contribution rate from 18 percent to 11 percent of the total payroll. Half of the savings from the reduction—about \$5.63 million—will go to CUC's fuel expenses. Some \$80,000 will go to PUC's startup operations. The rest approximately \$5.55 million-will be used at the governor's discretion.

Further, the law grants the governor unlimited reprogramming power over lapsed funding, re-appropriates some \$2.15 million of suspended earmarks to CUC's fuel expenses, and allows CUC to use half of its customers' security deposits for fuel.

Gross business tax will now apply to banks. Fees and charges for services such as driver's license, vehicle registration, firearms license, police report, and marriage license will double.

The measure cleared the Legislature despite some lawmakers' reservation. One particular provision that many legislators view as potentially problematic is the one allowing a one-man PUC to set rates.

Rep. Tina Sablan, who has called the legislation "an act of fear and poor planning," has expressed hope the governor would use his line-item veto power to strike the provision.

House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios also said he was concerned about the provision.

The new 11-percent contribution rate is also expected to have adverse effects on the NMI Retirement Fund, whose actuarial consultant had said that the government should pay 37.4 percent of its payroll to keep the pension program afloat.

# **Proclamation signing is held via teleconference**

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com

For the first time in the CNMI, a proclamation signing was held via teleconference in an effort to bring together all three islands in witnessing the event as one.

Board of Education chair Lucia Blanco-Maratita said, "We have entered the age of technology. It's great to use technology in this way. I think it's a way to open doors, especially for us here, to share our resources as best we can."

Lt. Gov. Tim P. Villagomez jested that, if the Executive Branch, the Public School System, and the Legislature were to use the same format, "we can solve all your problems."

Villagomez proclaimed the week of May 11-18 as CNMI National AmeriCorps Week at Saipan Southern High School via teleconference with Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

The CNMI AmeriCorps program is federally funded through a grant written by the Public School System and received from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The CNMI AmeriCorps recruits students from public and private schools who, under the guidance of site supervisors within PSS, serve as tutors for 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade in all public schools throughout Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. The students also pro-

vide service learning activities for the community.

According to CNMI/PSS AmeriCorps director Geri Willis, the CNMI members and volunteers "have touched many lives within the CNMI as evidenced by teachers, parents, students and community member testimonials."

"There are numerous stories about the impact the AmeriCorps members/volunteers are making within the CNMI on a daily basis that ensures a brighter future for the youth they tutor," she said.

Thirty-eight members of the first CNMI Americorps program recently completed their year of service, which qualifies them to an Education Award of \$2,362.50 each.

The members are part of the Corporation for National and Community Service. They are paid a monthly stipend and upon successful completion of 900 hours of service within a year.

Their Education Award can be used to attend qualified institutions of higher education, training or to repay qualified student loans.

The Americorps Program was established by former president Bill Clinton when the National and Community Service Act of 1993 was signed into law, creating both the AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service.



JACQUELINE HERNANDE

Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez pose for a picture with AmeriCorps Program director Geri Willis, CNMI AmeriCorps members and supervisors during the proclamation signing ceremony declaring May 11-18 as CNMI National AmeriCorps Week at the Saipan Southern High School cafeteria yesterday afternoon.

# Man allegedly strangles son

Police arrested on Friday a man who allegedly squeezed the forearm of his 14-year-old son and strangled him inside a pickup truck. The boy was shaken but unhurt.

Patrick Camacho Castro, 32, was arrested for assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

When a police officer responded to Castro's house in Sadog Tasi, the boy was observed to be hysterical and was shaking.

The wife told police that Castro had been acting weird the past two days before the incident. She expressed fear for her safety and her children's.

Detective Elias Q. Saralu stated in his report that, according to the juvenile, his father took him on their pickup truck early Friday morning to drop him off at a school bus stop.

Along the way, the boy asked Castro to sign the paper he had for their school activity.

Castro asked the boy to go ahead and write his name. While the boy was doing so, his father grabbed the paper from him.

The defendant then handed a chisel with a wooden handle to his son and told him to hold it.

At that point, Castro decided to turn back home. On their way back to the house, as the boy was still holding the chisel in his right hand, Castro held his right forearm and started squeezing it hard.

The boy asked his father to stop because he was hurting him. When the chisel fell from the boy's hand, Castro grabbed him by the neck and started strangling him.

The minor said he tried to free himself, but was unable to do so. He said he could feel his eyes about to pop and was having a hard time breathing.

Castro reportedly let go only when they reached the house. The boy ran inside and told his mother about what had happened.

The boy's mother then called the police. She told police that every time she would ask her husband what's wrong with him in the past two days, he would just either ignore her or tell her to shut up.

Castro was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing. Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama imposed a \$1,250 cash bail for his temporary liberty and set the preliminary hearing for May 19 at 9am. (Ferdie de la Torre)



\*Some canditions apply + 300 min More Plan or up +2 year agreement + Single Plans only + While supplies last

Colors available for GSM Specials are: Teal & Red Only + Colors available for CDMA Specials are: Red & Pink Only

# Documentary details Gabaldon's acts in WWII

By ADRIAN SAINZ ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MIAMI (AP)—Armed but alone, Marine Pfc. Guy Gabaldon roamed Saipan's caves and pillboxes, persuading enemy soldiers and civilians to surrender during the hellish World War II battle on the island.

Using the Japanese language skills he learned as a boy, he warned the Japanese they would die if they stayed hidden and told them Marines were not torturers as they had heard. The Marines, he said, would feed them and

give them medical care. Many agreed, and Gabaldon, just 18, led them back to U.S. lines.

By the battle's end, Gabaldon had coaxed more than 1,000 Japanese out of the steamy caves. He was praised as being brave and compassionate, and he received a Silver Star—later upgraded to a Navy Cross. His actions were recounted on television and in movies.

Now, almost two years after his death, there is a renewed campaign to give Gabaldon the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award. A new documentary, "East L.A. Ma-

Gabaldon's Hispanic heritage prevented him from receiving the medal, though others blame his tough and outspoken nature.

Critics question Gabaldon whether deserves the medal, saying his feats do not measure up to those of others on Saipan.

"It's a much bigger issue than any of us realize," said Steve Rubin, who directed documentary, which will be available online May 6. "Guy is a symbol not only of a hero in war, but a man who treated people humanely. He killed people, sure,

but having grown up essentially as a Japanese, he treated them as human beings."



This undated photo provided by Ohana Gabaldon, shows former U.S. Marine Pfc. Guy Gabaldon.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT** 

**INVITATION TO BID** ITB NO.: ITB08-DLNR/FW-065

OPENING DATE: JUNE 02, 2008 • TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (FAD) TRANSPORTATION AND DEPLOYMENT FOR THE DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ DR. IGNACIO T. DELA CRUZ, D.V.M.

/s/ HERMANS SARI AN

#### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP: RFP08-DCCA/HP0-046

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 30, 2008

"TO CONDUCT AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF APPROXIMATELY 3.5 HECTARES ON KAGMAN PENINSULA, SAIPAN FOR THE DCCA - HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ MELVIN L.O. FAISAO

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands **NORTHERN MARIANAS** 

**HOUSING CORPORATION** 



### NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Board Meeting held on April 28, 2008 will reconvene on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan. Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  - A. Call to Order B. Roll Call
- **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- **MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAMS** 
  - A. Rural Development
- B. Bank of Hawaii Loans
- **FISCAL AFFAIRS** 
  - A. 2009 Fiscal Year Budget B. CDA – Sugar King Properties
- **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- **OTHER MATTERS**
- **ADJOURNMENT**

NOTE: Pursuant to PL 8-41, Section 13(6) and (7), some discussion of the above may be under Executive Session.

MANUEL A. SABLAN Chairman of the Board

Growing up in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, Gabaldon became close with a Japanese-American family and made friends with Japanese boys. He also picked up the language as he delivered Japanese newspapers and picked crops with Japanese-Americans.

After Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, more than 100,000 people of Japanese heritage, including Gabaldon's friends, were sent to internment camps.

"He got very upset when the government put the Japanese in concentration camps," said his second wife, Ohana Gabaldon, who lives in Old Town in central Florida.

Gabaldon joined the Marines in 1943, becoming a scout observer and interpreter, and hit the shore of Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands on June 15, 1944.

Combat was often in close quarters in jungles and caves, and more than 3,200 Americans and 23,800 Japanese were killed, according to a 1994 Marine Corps pamphlet, "Breaching the Marianas: The Battle for Saipan."

Civilians, some prisoners of Japanese soldiers, hid in caves. They included women and children, and were hungry and suffering from shell shock, leprosy, dengue fever. Fearing the Americans, Japanese civilians blew themselves up with grenades or jumped off cliffs.

Gabaldon did his share of killing, but one day he ventured alone behind enemy lines and brought back a group of Japanese prisoners. Gabaldon was scolded by his commander, Col. John Schwabe, but went out alone again and returned with more Japanese.

Satisfied, Schwabe Gabaldon continue.

"He would go up to the mouth of that cave and jabber, jabber, jabber, and pretty soon somebody would dribble out," Schwabe said in the documentary.

Eventually, Gabaldon had rounded up 1,000 to 1,500 Japanese-including a purported 800 in one day.

"Through his efforts, a definite humane treatment of civilian prisoners was insured," according to a Marine Corps Gabaldon's credentials for a Silver Star.

Interviewed in the documentary, Gabaldon discussed his motivation.

"Being raised in the barrio, every day is a fight," Gabaldon said. "You're fighting to survive in the barrio and I think that might have had something to do with my personality, my makeup. I knew I was doing something that had never been done in World War II."

Gabaldon was woundevacuated to a hospital, according to the document provided by the Marine Corps History Division.

Schwabe said in a 1960 letter that there was confusion after Saipan over who was responsible for recommending Gabaldon for the Medal of Honor.

In June 1957, he was featured on the TV show "This is Your Life." Two Japanese friends also appeared.

In 1960, "Hell to Eternity" was released, starring Jeffrey Hunter, who clearly was not Hispanic and at 6 feet tall looked nothing like 5-foot, 4-inch Gabaldon.

"That part of him is completely obliterated ... people who are familiar with this issue are really appalled by that," said Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez, a University of Texas journalism professor who interviewed Gabaldon and hundreds of other men and women of the World War II generation.

However, the film started a push for the Medal of Honor and Schwabe officially recommended him for the honor. In December 1960, the Pentagon upgraded Gabaldon's Silver Star to a Navy Cross, but the Medal of Honor never came.

Gabaldon, who eventually settled in Florida, suffered a

234-7368

stroke in the late 1990s but never mellowed or abandoned his love for fishing and other adventures, his wife said. He died in September 2006 at age 80.

Gabaldon's wife said he talked about racism he experienced as a serviceman. But Gabaldon never lost his love for the Marines: "He was a Marine first, and then Guy," Ohana Gabaldon said.

However, he was hurt that he never learned why he hadn't gotten the Medal of Honor, leading him and others to wonder whether his ethnicity played a part, his wife said.

Nobody came up with the ed in January 1945 and truth," Ohana Gabaldon said. "I guess what Guy wanted to hear from the Marine Corps is that 'We goofed.' He told me he wasn't going to see the Medal of Honor in his lifetime."

The documentary compares Gabaldon's exploits to others who did win the Medal of Honor, such as the Army's Audie Murphy, the most decorated soldier in World War II.

In the film, narrator Freddie Prinze Jr. asks: "What caused this inequity? Was it because Guy Gabaldon was of Hispanic heritage? Was it because he had a big mouth and wasn't afraid to say what he felt?"

University of the South professor Harold J. Goldberg said in his book "D-Day in the Pacific: The Battle of Saipan" that some Marines estimated that Gabaldon captured only about half of the number he claimed.

Marine Sgt. David Dowdakin said in the book that while Gabaldon had advocates, "the rest of us think he is an importuning glory seeker who is playing the race card. But, then, the two traits often go together: bravery and glory seeking."

Capt. Amy Malugani, a Marines spokeswoman, said in an e-mail to The Associated Press that the Marines are precluded from discussing whether any individual has been recommended for a medal.

But Malugani also said the Secretary of the Navy is reviewing of the service records of each Jewish and Hispanic-American veteran who won the Navy Cross for actions during World War II, the Korean and Vietnam wars, and Operation Desert Storm, to determine if any should be awarded the Medal of Honor.

Gabaldon's widow said politics could be involved in the decision.

'We're becoming not so much a minority anymore," said Ohana Gabaldon, who is of Japanese and Mexican descent. "Maybe this is the time that the Latino vote counts, what Washington cares about so much.

'They can take the opportunity to right a wrong and be aware of what Latinos have done for this country."



Part-Time position available for our Saipan location. Applicant must have extensive knowledge of PCs. Position involves diagnosing and repairing personal computers and also customer service. Background in electronics a plus.

## Computer Technician

Requirements:

- US permanent resident
- Must be able to lift heavy objects
- · Friendly and self-motivated
- Excellent communication skills
- Dependable transportation

### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

#### **ASVAB** testing on Tinian

There will be an ASVAB testing on Tinian on May 17, 2008, at 9am, at the Tinian Gymnasium.

Please show up 30 minutes prior to testing with an identification card, i.e., passport or driver's license. (PR)

#### MHS Class of '83 meeting

The planning committee for Marianas High School's upcoming 25th year reunion for the Class of 1983 is inviting all classmates and interested individuals to a planning meeting to finalize activities.

The meeting will be held May 9, 2008, 7pm, at the Kilili Beach Pavilion, Civic Center, Susupe.

You may contact any of the Steering committee members for details.

- Tonnei Camacho 483-9665
- Viola Kaipat 483-0214
- Ed Camacho 483-5262
- Jane Tudela 234-9571
- Frances Mildred Cruz

483-0995

- Ester Teregeyo 236-9777
- Ben Sablan 287-1480
- Diego Songsong 287-4300

#### Live-fire training at Farallon de Mendenilla

The Emergency Management Office, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Guam, said that the U.S. military would be conducting live-fire training on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla.

The schedule dates and time are as follow:

- May 5 6 from 7am to 12am
- from 7am to ■ May 7 - 8,
- May 9 10, 2008 from 7am to 12am

The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla Training Area on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is advising the public-especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. (EMO)

#### Muna, Inos to speak at **SCC** meeting

Tony Muna, the new executive

director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and Finance Secretary Eloy Inos have agreed to speak at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's general membership meeting tomorrow, May 7, at Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon.

As usual, meeting fees are \$15 for members, \$20 for guests of members, and \$25 for general public. This is a great opportunity to hear about CUC's shortand long-term plans—be sure to join us. (SCC)

#### WSR's May/June 2008 events

May 4-10 Teacher Appreciation Week

- Monday-Bring a flower day
- Tuesday-Bring an apple day (anything associated with apples)
- Wednesday-Bring a sweet treat day
- Thursday-Bring a praise note/thank you note day
- Friday-Bring a mwar/lei

May 5-9 Registration for

WSR ongoing 2 grade students May 5 Flag Ceremony, 8am,

May 7 PTSA meeting 6pm, cafeteria

May 12-16 Registration for WSR ongoing 1st grade stu-

May 12-16 Standards based assessment week 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>

May 13 NJHS meeting 2:30 pm, room g-2

May 14 April/May peace builders diners club, 1pm caf-

May 14 Pizza night fundrais-

May 16 Book fair, 8am-2pm



### **Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS** 



### **COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION CUC-IFB08-003**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, is soliciting sealed bids for the REHABILITATION OF THE EXISTING SLOW SAND FILTERS PROJECT in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Sealed bids shall be identified on outside of the envelope by Invitation for Bids No. CUC-IFB008-003. Bids in six sets (including original) will be accepted at the Procurement and Supply Office, CUC, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan until 2:00 P.M., on, May 23, 2008, at which time and place will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury.

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval from the USEPA.

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a U.S. Treasury listed company. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less that the current CNMI minimum wage. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

The project consists, in general, of the rehabilitation of the existing slow sand filters, related plumbing, installation of qualitative measurement devices such as Turbidity Meters, Residual Chlorine Meter, related small pumps, electrical controls, and a new control room to house the metering devices adjacent to the Saipan International Airport, Saipan CNMI.

A non-refundable payment of \$300.00 is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after April 25, 2008 at the Water Division Office, CUC, Saipan. A pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 A.M., on May 9, 2008, at the CUC Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit is scheduled following the pre-bid meeting.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government.

All inquiries should be directed to Manuel B. Sablan, Procurement & Supply Manager at telephone number (670) 235-7025 thru 7032 Ext. 111/134 or Larry Manacop Water Division Engineer at extension 155.

> ANTHONY C. GUERRERO **Executive Director**

### Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana Ofisinan I Gubietno Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

#### NOTISIA POT PLANON MA-ATKILAN TANO PUBLIKO

Segun i tineteka na patte gi Lai Publiko 15-2, i Depattamenton Tano ha publilika planon para uma-atkila tano publiko guine giya Notte Marianas. Todo membron publikon iya Marianas libre man-nahalom opinion pot este na plano sino otro hinasso pot priniponen atkilon maseñala para uma-atkila na tano publiko.

I mapropone na atkilon ma-deskribe komo Lot No. 002 E 03 `nai guaha 4,619 metro kuatdrao; Lot No. 002 E 04, i dinañkuloña 4,622 metro kuatdrao; yan, Lot No. 012 E 03, dinañkuloña 3,060 metro kuatdrao, poko mas o'menos. I mapan este na tano publiko gaige gi Depattamenton Tano.

I applikante i kompanian Huang Zheng Corporation, Ltd., un` kompania guine giya Marianas. A presidenten este na kompania si Señor Quan Huang. Si Mr. Huang kontratistan este na atkilon ya inasiste as Señor Tony Reyes.

Si Mr. Huang para u usa i lugat para bisnis lulog, alumimum, yan papet katton, lugat para materiat siha (warehouse), manbenden materiat para mahatsan guma, bisnis produkton tase yan man-repean boti.

I tetminon atkilon para bente siñko (25) años ya siña marinueba para kinse (15) años mas na tiempo. I atkilon siempre uma-detetmina akuanto pot siento kada sakan segun i maprepara na ripot balin este siha na tano. I mapropopone na kontratan atkilon siña in' rikonose gi maseha mano na offisinan Depattamenton Tano entalo Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. I Depattamenton Tano trabiha ti man-resisibe otro planon uson este siha na tano publiko.

I Sekretarion Depattamenton Tano listo para u resibe opiñion publiko pot uson este siha na tano antes de Mayu

### ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipel, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghiyeghiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap nge ekke bwáári Lot No. 002 E 03, eyoor faawu sangaras olabwughuw seigh me tiwoow llapal (4,619 square meters), elapeló me ngáre eghús, Lot No. 002 E 04, eyoor faawu sangaras olabwughuw reweigh me ruwoow llapal (4,622 square meters) elapelo me ngare eghus me Lot No. 012 E 03, eyoor eluuw sangaras oleigh llapal (3,060 square meters), elo Lower Base, Seipel. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngare óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- Schóól akkilon nge Huang Zheng Corporation., CNMI corporation LTD. Mr. Quang Huang nge ii schagh Samwoolul (President) corporation yeel

Schéschéél samwoolul corporation yeel nge Quan Huang.

- Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Mr. Quan Huang fengal me alillisil Mr. Tony A. Reyes.
- Schóól akkilon ebwe ayoora bwuley reel recycling, sookko, wiisal tenda matiriyóód, retail/wholesale reel mwungol leeset, me ammwelil bwoot.

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limoow ráágh (15 years)

Meel akkilon yeel nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (value of the property).

- Emmwel bwe tilighial akkilon óubwe bwughil mellol bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llol Dandan, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.
- Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo bwal eew pomwol akkilon ye elo Lower Base, Seipel..
- Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal schagh Ghuuw (May) 14, 2008 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta me ngare Tchúlúyol

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 002 E 03, containing an area of approximately 4,619 square meters, more or less, Lot No. 002 E 04, containing an area of approximately 4,622 square meters, more or less, and Lot No. 012 E 03, containing an area of approximately 3,060 square meters, situated in Lower Base, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcels is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- The prospective lessee is Huang Zheng Corporation., Ltd., a CNMI corporation. Mr. Quan Huang is the

The president of the corporation is Mr. Quan Huang.

- iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Quan Huang with the assistance of Mr. Tony A. Reyes.
- iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and operating facilities for recycling, a warehouse, retail of hardware materials, retail/wholesale of seafood products, and boat repair and

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value

- A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.
- vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Lower Base, Saipan.
- vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before May 14, 2008 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

# **NMI** Baha'i members join elections

**HAGATÑA**—A global election process that began with people in 100,000 cities and villages around the world culminated on April 29 when delegates gathered in Haifa, Israel, to elect the international governing body of the Bahá'í Faith.

Representatives of some 170 nations, including members of the Bahá'is of the Northern Mariana Islands, cast ballots for the nine members of the Universal House of Justice, which has its seat at the Bahá'í World Centre in Haifa. The election is held every five years.

Bahá'í elections are distinctive in that there are no nominations, no campaigning, and no discussion about which individuals should be elected.

The delegates to the International Bahá'í Conventionmembers of all the Bahá'í national governing bodies around the world—vote by secret ballot for the nine people they believe best suited for membership on the supreme institution of their Faith.

The Bahá'í writings state that voters should try to choose people "of selfless devotion, of a welltrained mind, of recognized ability and mature experience."

For Bahá'ís, the Universal House of Justice is the highest religious authority. It guides the worldwide Bahá'í community in its development and in its response to changing world conditions, provides for Bahá'í



Eight Bahá'is of the Northern Mariana Islands traveled to Haifa, Israel, to join Bahá'i delegates from around the globe to participate on 29 April in the elections of the nine members of the Universal House of Justice, considered the guiding authority of the Bahá'i world. From left, David Yamartino, Holly Luganob, Philippe Gerling, Tahereh Gerling, Alan Jamison, Barbara Jamison, Michael Cornwell, and Richard Benson.

pilgrimage, holds in trust and maintains the Bahá'í holy places, and administers international Bahá'í funds.

Any male age 21 and over is eligible for election to the Universal House of Justice. Both women and men serve on all other Bahá'í institutions international, continental, national and local.

The election process began well over a year ago when Bahá'ís in some 100,000 localities around the world began meeting in district conventions to elect delegates to their own national conventions. At those gatherings, the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of each country is elected.

The members of those na-

tional councils gathered as electors at the global level for the International Bahá'í Convention, held from April 29 to May 2 in Haifa.

About 1,200 delegates attended the convention. Those unable to attend sent ballots by mail.

The Bahá'i community of the Northern Mariana Islands counts about 400 members. (PR)

# EQ sets May water operator training

It's time again for the Continuing Education for water treatment and distribution operators. This training is intended for water operators that are

already certified.

This quarter's Continuing Education for Water Operators class is scheduled for ing will be on Wed, Aug. 6, Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 2008. If you have any ques-

8am to 12pm.

The next scheduled train-

the Aqua Resort Club from tions about the upcoming trainings feel free to contact the Safe Drinking Water Program at DEQ by calling 664-8500. (DEQ)



### **BANK OF HAWAII DONATION**

Karidat executive director Angie V. Leon Guerrero and Karidat board of directors chair Ned S. Arriola receive the \$10,000 check donation from Bank of Hawaii Pacific Islands division senior vice president & regional manager John Sheather, Bank of Hawaii Assistant vice president/ branch sales manager CNMI branches Susie F. Williams, Bank of Hawaii Service manager CNMI branches Lisa San Nicolas, and Bank of Hawaii Business relationship officer CNMI branches Rose T. Sumor during a brief turnover ceremony at the Bank of Hawaii Puerto Rico branch yesterday morning. The generous donation from the Bank of Hawaii Charitable Foundation will be used to support Karidat's Pilot Housing Assistance Building Project.



### May 06, 1999

#### Teno backs CUC

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio said yesterday he would fight plans that would seek to reduce existing power rates for commercial and residential use in fear that such move would further hurt the local coffers by subsidizing the utility company. The Senate has put forward a legislation seeking to cut by an average of 25 percent the cost of electricity as a way of helping residents and businessmen cope with the worsening economic conditions in the islands, a proposal strongly opposed by the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

#### **Court rejects Senate reapportionment**

The U.S. District Court yesterday upheld the Senate composition of three senators from each island and denied the complaint earlier filed by former Representative Torres and lawyer Jeanne Rayphand. The "one person, one vote" provided for in the Fourteenth Amendment is not a fundamental right for citizens in the CNMI.

#### No sweat shop conditions, says RP envoy

Marking his third day on Saipan, Philippine Ambassador to the United States Ernesto Maceda toured one of the island's largest garment factories and found no proofs to support Washington's concerns over the existence of sweatshops in the CNMI. "Based on what I have found so far, I haven't seen any sweat shop conditions," he said after the tour around the garment shop of Tan Holdings Corporation at Lower Base.

### May 06, 2002

#### Fire hits Puerto Rico dump

Fire broke out at the Puerto Rico dump in what was considered as one of the biggest blaze within the decades-old dumpsite that prompted emergency response teams from the government-including Public Works Secretary Juan S. Reyes-to rush to the site. The fire lasted about four hours even as firefighters from the Department of Public Safety's Division of Fire responded to the scene. The Emergency Management Office also responded to the alarm.

### **NMIRF** says members with BoS accounts to get pension checks

To ensure that all retirees with Bank of Saipan accounts get their end-of-April pension, the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund is urging affected members to immediately inform the Fund so they would get their money through a check that would be issued by the Fund. According to Fund legal counsel Kathleen Troy-Rucker, the Fund's Board of Trustees made this decision during last Thursday's board meeting, even as she pointed out that, like so many others with assets that remain trapped in the BoS, the Fund remains waiting for what will happen next.

### **DPS:** Keep a close eye on your money

Bank depositors making large withdrawals should pay extra attention to security and safety in the wake of a recent debacle that has reportedly left some individuals in the community feeling desperate, the Department of Public Safety warned Friday. DPS Deputy Commissioner for Administration Col. Franklin Babauta has advised the public to exercise caution in going about their bank withdrawal transactions and be wary of suspicious characters in the vicinity.

### May 06, 2003

### **OPA clears Cabrera of wrongdoing**

A draft Office of the Public Auditor report has cleared Rep. Gloria DLC. Cabrera of any wrongdoing when she was photographed by the Marianas Variety playing poker at a Middle Road establishment. The two-page report obtained by Saipan Tribune said that Cabrera did not violate any provisions of the Government Ethics Code nor any other Commonwealth laws related to fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

### **Asian visitors come in trickles**

A myriad of factors that include the Iraq war and the outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in Asia, Europe and North America pulled down visitor arrivals to the Northern Marianas by 13.83 percent in April 2002 from the previous year's tally. A preliminary report from the Marianas Visitors Authority disclosed that tourist arrivals from the Commonwealth's major markets in Asia-Japan, Korea, and even China-dropped during the period under review.

# Island Snapshots



#### **BIRTHDAY GIRL**

Happy 8th birthday to my daughter Ki-Jana Nakia Hocog who is celebrating her birthday today, May 6, 2008. "Wishing you the best birthday ever and many more to come. I love you so much. You enjoy your day, my girl. Much love from mommy, your brother Vincent Jr and your sister Baybie Dee.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



### MIFICPA CLEANUP

Marianas Institute of Filipino CPAs and Accountants conduct their first beach cleanup at the 13 Fishermen's beach. MIFICPA adopted the 13 Fishermen's beach since April 2008. If you want to adopt a beach, contact DEQ at 664-8500 or visit them online at www.deq.gov.mp.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



#### MAN'AMKO FUNDRAISER

Rep. Joseph Reyes, second from left, and Rep. Ed Salas, right attend the Man'amko Multicultural Dance Show that was held Friday, May 2, 2008, at the Multi-Purpose Center. The event was a fundraiser for the man'amko's annual goodwill trip. The destination this year is Rota. May is Mes Manamko' or Older Americans Month.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Rep. Joseph Reyes dances with a man'amko during the multicultural dance show that was held on Friday, May 2, 2008 at the Multi-Purpose Center. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



### **NUTRITION PROGRAM**

Parents of children attending Oleai Head Start Center have their picture taken during their Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, held on April 30, 2008, at the Oleai Elementary School cafeteria. The resource speakers were Patricia Coleman and Rose Camacho of Northern Marianas College. The Head Start teachers were Lilia King and Maranda Smith.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Manamko' Tuufey Association chairman Franciso Reyes entertain the crowd with a song presentation during the Manamko's 2nd Annual Cultural Variety show at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Saturday night.





dancing talents during the Manamko's 2nd Annual Cultural Variety show in observance of Older Americans Month/ Mes Manamko'/Maramal Tufeey at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Saturday night.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



**TINIAN FIESTA** 

for a souvenir picture during the Tinian Fiesta.

Palaun senior citizens perform a traditional Palauan dance number during the Manamko's 2nd Annual Cultural Variety show in observance of Older Americans Month/Mes Manamko'/Maramal Tufeey at the Multi-purpose center in Susupe Saturday night.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

# **Opinion**



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### **EDITORIAL**

## **Food politics**

he whole world is feeling the impact of soaring food and commodity prices. A recent series in The Post reported that poor families in West Africa are selling precious livestock to buy staples, while some consumers in the United States have taken to hoarding cut-rate groceries. The surge in costs, unlike anything global food markets have seen since the 1970s, has many causes. It reflects one good trend—rising demand for food as India and China prosper—and a dangerous one—rising oil prices. There has been drought in wheat-exporting Australia. Many countries have banned or discouraged food exports. Yet several contributing factors are made in the U.S.A. The Federal Reserve Board's interest rate cuts are weakening the dollar. They may also be driving speculators to bid up the price of commodities. And ethanol subsidies, coupled with Congress's new mandate to produce 36 billion gallons of ethanol annually by 2022, are diverting land from other crops to corn production—and corn from food to energy.

Correcting policies that exacerbate the food crisis will be one of the next president's most urgent tasks. Yet, so far, agriculture has played only a minimal role in the campaign debate; to the extent it's been discussed at all, it's mostly been in Iowa and other farm states. You'd hardly know that, for the past several months, Congress has been drafting a farm bill that would heap further subsidies on an already bloated sector. You'd hardly know that higher food prices are probably here to stay and that the United States needs a long-term strategy to deal with them.

During the Senate's farm bill debate in December, Democrats Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton and Republican John McCain all voted for an amendment to eliminate federal direct payments to farmers who make more than \$200,000 per year. This was to their great credit, though the measure ultimately failed. McCain, a veteran opponent of ethanol subsidies, can fairly claim to have seen today's market distortions coming. He opposes current barriers to imports of ethanol. Last week he declared—in Iowa, no less—that, if he were president, he would veto the farm bill. Though the latest draft would trim ethanol subsidies a bit, he argued that it does not slash farm supports nearly enough.

McCain was not only right on substance; he may have picked a political winner, too, as voters focus more on the contradiction between subsidies for farmers and rising grocery bills. Obama and Clinton, by contrast, are locked into the strong pro-ethanol-subsidy positions both took before the Iowa caucuses. (Both have expressed support for an eventual transition to non-corn-based ethanol.) The Democratic contenders even promised to support a permanent disaster relief fund such as the one being pushed by Sens. Kent Conrad of North Dakota and Max Baucus of Montana, both also Democrats. This is a \$4 billion subsidy to farmers who plant dry, environmentally fragile lands in the Northern Great Plains.

Last week, President Bush announced \$770 million in proposed new aid to the world's hungry. He coupled this with a renewed call to spend 25 percent of the money to buy grain in local markets abroad, as opposed to only in the United States, as current law requires. This reform would make food aid much more efficient. So far, agriculture lobbies have blocked it. The candidates should back this reform. Times are changing —in food policy and in food politics.

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### In the end, every President talks to the bad guys

By LESLIE H. GELB

have been charged by the president with making sure that none of the tyrannies in the world are negotiated with," Vice President Cheney reportedly declared in a White House meeting on North Korea in December 2003. "We don't negotiate with evil; we defeat it."

But the question of talking to villains is hardly simple. Even as the powerful veep was excommunicating evildoers in his 2003 pronouncement, the Bush administration was cavorting with many of the world's biggest devils: negotiating with North Korea on its nuclear-arms program, with Iran on efforts against the Taliban in Afghanistan and with Libyan strongman Moammar Gadhafi on a historic new relationship. Washington sages are now debating whether to negotiate with President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran or with Hamas; some are considering trying to reconcile with supposedly repentant Islamist insurgents in Iraq and Taliban fighters in Afghanistan.

Contrary to Cheney's dictum, chest-thumping congressional resolutions and op-ed pieces, the United States almost always deals with devils at some point or another. There is no alternative if a president wants to test nonmilitary solutions to the nastiest of problems. Forget the inevitable posturing. The real issue is not whether to talk to the bad guys but how—under which conditions, with which mix of pressure and conciliation, and with what degree of expectation that the bad guys will keep their word. When figuring out how to go about negotiating with devils, the questions get very basic.

### Is it right to think of certain governments and groups as evil?

Absolutely, unless you're a groupie of Third World nationalist movements or a professor of semantics. As with pornography, you do know real evil when you see it in world politics—Darfur, Bosnia, Rwanda, Cambodia, Saddam Hussein's Iraq, al-Qaida and many more.

### Is it effective to publicly call another regime or group "evil"?

It can be. Sometimes, it does make sense to just shout it. The recipient won't like it, of course; it's like calling his mother a prostitute. But from time to time, enslaved peoples need to hear that they're remembered, and Americans need to be reminded of what they stand for—hence President Ronald Reagan's accurate and bracing labeling of the Soviet Union as an "evil empire."

### But how can you deal with someone after you've labeled them "evil"?

You just can; it's done all the time. Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman knew well about the sins of the Soviet Union, but they cooperated with the monstrous Joseph Stalin against an

even bigger monster, Adolf Hitler. (Winston Churchill was similarly unsentimental: "If Hitler invaded Hell," he reportedly said, "I would at least make a favorable reference to the Devil in the House of Commons.") President Richard M. Nixon was well aware of the tens of millions killed by Mao Zedong but figured that dealing with the Chinese leader would give him leverage against Moscow. Even Reagan married his condemnation of the Soviets with an all-out effort to negotiate far-reaching arms control agreements with them.

Only President Bush messed up this simple, effective two-step approach to diplomacy. In 2002, he famously blasted Iraq, Iran and North Korea as "an axis of evil." (They were evil, though certainly not an axis.) But unlike Reagan, Bush virtually blocked his own future diplomatic path by making regime change his goal toward these evildoers, thereby slashing incentives for the devils to negotiate with him. Why should they negotiate if Bush's aim was to overthrow them? The policy made no sense, and sure enough, it didn't work. Bush did indeed go to war against Iraq, but he entered into direct negotiations with Pyongyang and eventually wound up holding ambassadorial-level talks with Iran about the present situation in Iraq. Those reversals made Bush, rather than the bad guys, look hypocritical.

## Should we insist on preconditions for talks, such as demanding that the bad guys agree in advance to give up their evil words and ways?

We could try, but it wouldn't work. They wouldn't throw in their cards before they negotiated any more than we would.

The toughest cases, of course, involve working out how to handle leaders and groups who have done Americans great harm before talks can begin or get serious. Take Libya. After a lot of pushing, Gadhafi's regime took steps to curb terrorism and agreed to compensate the families of the Lockerbie bombing victims. Libyan leaders ultimately came to understand that the destruction of a civilian airliner had been so shocking that Americans absolutely needed this tacit admission of guilt, but all other issues were left for negotiations.

Presidents played cat-and-mouse games for more than a decade with Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat, urging him to recognize Israel's right to exist. He always promised to amend his organization's founding charter to accept the Jewish state, but in the end, both the United States and Israel effectively settled for his willingness to openly negotiate with Israel—and fudged the question of the charter.

Bush started on a similar path with Iran. He insisted that Tehran renounce its nuclear program before talks could start. But it's hard to find anyone who thinks this ploy will work.

### So how should we conduct negotiations with the bad

There's only way: Keep the pressure on, withhold any goodies until See IN THE END on next page

The Saipan Tribune welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

### Letters to the Editor

### Open letter to all CUC employees

In my nearly four and half years of service at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., most especially as your executive director these last few years, I have never been surrounded by a more dedicated and committed staff than those that I have been

associated with at CUC.

Despite all the challenges, hardships, lack of resources, and criticisms we face at CUC, you continue to perform admirably in your responsibilities and commitment to keep the services flowing in our islands.

I thank you for your dedication, support, personal sacrifices and most especially the time spent away from your loved ones. Your friendship, kind gestures and your constant encouragement shown to me as your Executive Director have no doubt allowed me to grow tremendously in ways that will never be forgotten. I wish I had the time to sit down and speak to each one of you, but unfortunately the cir-

cumstances and the sudden turn of events did not permit me to do so. My other regret is that I will not be able to share in the challenges and the great things that are ahead for CUC.

My family and I wish each and every one of you and your family the very best.

Anthony C. Guerrero Former executive director Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

### Need I mention pozzolan?

One of the concerns being raised about the proposed "Marianas Trench Marine Monument" is that it would preclude an underwater mining industry 100 years down the road.

Let's do some math: The total area of the proposed "National Park of the Sea" is about 115,000 square miles, while the world's oceans cover over 138,000,000 (138 million) square miles. 115,000 divided by 138,000,000 equals 0.08 percent of the world's oceans.

The area of ocean contained in the proposed protected area, which is over 300 miles north of Saipan, encompasses less than a tenth of 1 percent of the ocean floor.

The odds are not that great (based on the area of the world's oceans) that the proposed monument area is going to be the site of some dubious valuable mineral resources or that these alleged minerals, if present, would be the most likely to be mined first, or within the next few decades. Need I mention pozzolan?

Deep sea mining is in its infancy and with the exception of diamond mining in shallow waters off Namibia, no mining at any depth is commercially producing in the world today, never mind a mining industry in the deepest part of the ocean, hundreds of miles away from the nearest port.

Then, if the technology were to be finally developed, mining will likely start first in developing countries with lax environmental laws, not in waters under United States jurisdiction. American environmental laws would not allow the level of destruction, contamination, and sedimentation that a developing country would allow, making it cheaper to mine in developing countries. Is the devastation of the marine environment what mining proponents are advocating?

Finally, this issue still ignores the fact that the CNMI already tried to sue the federal government for the mineral rights and lost. The CNMI does not control a single square inch of the submerged lands around our islands. I know that this is a hard pill for some to swallow, but it is true. See: United States (U.S.) District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands v. United States of America, No. 99-0028 (August 7, 2003).

However, as I explained in my

previous letter to the editor, designating a monument would give the CNMI co-management over our waters for the first time in our history.

The monument will create jobs, add to government coffers, bring unprecedented worldwide positive attention, lead to the building of a visitors center on Saipan, Tinian, or Rota, will keep illegal foreign fishing vessels out of our waters, and most importantly, the last remaining wilderness in the Marianas will remain wild. Our great-grandchildren will always have that marine sanctuary to know what these islands were like before concrete, poker parlors, and mid-term elections became a way of life in the CNMI.

Ken Kramer
Marianas RC&D Coordinator

### 'I shall not stand down'

Dear Speaker Palacios:

In a recent communication, I noted that the residents of Tinian and Rota enjoy a CUC power rate that is lower than the cost to produce that power. The difference is made up by Saipan CUC users who overpay by approximately \$5.6 million annually (\$800,000 to Rota and the balance to Tinian). These subsidy numbers are accurate and no amount of complaining by members of the Senate will make them change. Fairness dictates that both Rota and Tinian should pay a higher CUC rate since it costs more to produce power there.

To my critics in the Senate I say thank goodness they have awakened! Perhaps they will come to recognize the inequity and try to help ease the burden on the long suffering residents of Saipan.

First and foremost, I am not blaming the residents of Tinian and Rota. I am responding, again, to their elected leaders' critique. I didn't mind when Tinian leaders bragged that they had 9 megawatts of power that they don't need and they were willing to "donate" it as their contribution to our CNMI need. Instead they are asking for more than \$3 million in payments? I think it is prudent to point out that in order to generate that power, and indeed all the power on Tinian, they rely on Saipan customers to pay for the diesel that runs their generators to the tune of \$4.7 million in subsidies a year.

The Senate critics have noted that

we are one Commonwealth and that half of Tinian is owned by the U.S. military (for the time being). They point out the military land lease payment went for the general use of the whole Commonwealth. True but that fee is far more than offset by generous contributions from Saipan taxpayers to both Tinian and Rota over the years. Lets look back 15 years to when both islands received \$13M-\$15M annually from the Treasury. Let's subtract \$5M as Saipan's generous contribution to our sister isles. Over those few years that's \$75 million of Saipan's blood and sweat used to keep the NMI as one Commonwealth and it should be noted that is way over and beyond the small sum the military paid for

their use (or non-use) of Tinian.

Saipan power payers are bleeding. Senators go ahead and complain about my pointing it out if you will, but the fact remains that Tinian and Rota CUC customers are luxuriously enjoying electric power at the expense of Saipan's blood and sweat.

What can we do to even up the playing field? Open a dialog and try to find equitable solutions rather than to throw barbs at each other. But if crying foul you must, don't expect that I will stand down from decrying this unfair burden placed on the good citizens of Saipan. I shall not stand down.

Rep. Stanley T. McGinnis Torres Capital Hill, Saipan

### IN THE END

From Page 10

agreed tasks are performed and seriously work to ease the bad guy's principal worry—holding onto power. That's the sad trade-off. The devils simply aren't going to do anything to jeopardize their power.

If Washington is truly alarmed about the nuclear ambitions of, say, Iran and North Korea, we can talk to these regimes about giving their programs up—but it's not likely to work while we're also demanding regime change. And if it's relative stability Americans yearn for in Iraq and Afghanistan, we're going to have to talk to the bad guys and give them a share of power.

## Has the United States mishandled such situations in the past?

Sure. Just look at the way Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush handled Saddam Hussein in the 1980s and early '90s. They exaggerated the threat from Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Iran and saw neighboring Iraq as the only counterweight to the mullahs. So they courted Saddam and coddled him with arms, intelligence and smiling visits from eminences such as Donald H. Rumsfeld. Not surprisingly, Saddam came to believe Washington would let him get away with virtually anything—including gassing his own Kurdish citizens in 1988 and invading Kuwait in 1990.

### Is everyone in an evil regime equally villainous?

No. Not all bad guys are equally bad. Moreover, the interests of different factions inside a regime differ from one another, and it's often possible to split some off from the others. The British understood the divide-and-conquer strategy, and it usually works. We should be exploring this sort of approach now

with Iran and Hamas.

### So what should Americans expect from deals with devils?

Alas, nothing much when it comes to improving the nature of their nasty regimes or their treatment of their own citizens. But U.S. leaders should still regularly raise the plight of the victims, publicly and privately, and play for long-run changes. On the other hand, bad guys have shown a willingness to compromise on political and security questions—the areas upon which Washington should focus.

And even when a deal is made, don't assume they'll keep their word.

#### Does this all mean that we should just talk to every devil, no matter how evil?

No. There is a crucial difference between a bad man and a madman. If that line is crossed, there really isn't much sense in negotiating. Hitler's rhetoric, fanatical anti-Semitism and palpable aggression were beyond debate, and it was self-delusion to think he could ever be remotely reasonable. The same can be said of the words and deeds of Osama bin Laden—and probably those of Ahmadinejad and Khaled Meshal, the exiled leader of Hamas, as well. To deal with these detestable fanatics without any real prospects for a breakthrough serves only to legitimize and empower them.

But their followers are not monolithic. It's almost always worth exploring the cracks and crevices for people who are disillusioned, tired or just plain ambitious. Even devils have interests other than threatening the United States. Simply put, if you won't deal with bad guys, don't go into the foreign policy business.

Leslie H. Gelb, president emeritus of the Council on Foreign Relations, is the author of a forthcoming book on power in the 21st century. Igelb@cfr. org.

# Questions that need answers

We are glad that Mr. Anthony Guerrero resigned from this administration. As president of Taotao Tano, I wish to convey to the people of the Commonwealth that Mr. Anthony Guerrero had exemplified extreme professionalism and respect for the people of the Commonwealth and his decisions during his tenure as executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. had been hampered by this administration and not his doing. We strongly believe that Mr. Guerrero did the right thing by resigning, otherwise this Governor will find a way to blame him one way or another with the issues currently surfacing.

We also have reasons to believe that this had been a political move to pressure Mr. Guerrero into resigning so that the Governor can move forward with his privatization plan with our power plant and possibly getting rid of current employees who are not loyal or adhering to his expectations.

Taotao Tano is aggressively pursuing the disappearance of a \$4 million check that surfaced. We need answers from the Secretary of Finance. There are too many cover-ups going on. Someone has to be held responsible and accountable. We are also looking into J&G Sablan's negotiation to mine pozzalan on Pagan; we want to know what the deal is. Has Mr. Sablan paid his arrears for delinquent public land quarry leases as reported by OPA? Why is the negotiation taking place behind closed doors and not made public? How much are we talking about here? Who else is benefiting from the mining?

Last Friday's State of the Commonwealth address added more fuel to our quest for impeachment of the Governor due for submission this week. The letter submitted to both the House and Senate members was simply putting everyone on notice that Taotao Tano is seriously pursuing this urgent and priority matter. The innocent people of the Commonwealth were oppressed by U.S. Congress, including foreign organizations disrespecting the entire local indigenous Northern Mariana descent people, simply because of who is in charge of our government.

Reporters need to check why the Governor declared to run again without the consent of the Lt. Governor. What is the current situation in the administration? Is there a fall out between the Better Times team?

As for Washington Rep Pete A. Tenorio, there is no way he will get the non-voting delegate seat or any other seat for that matter. We need a strong, young and energetic individual who will fight for the people of the Commonwealth and someone who knows how to handle pressure including upholding our Covenant and Constitution to its fullest, as negotiated by both U.S. Congress and the CNMI. As for rumors of a trade-off, ves it is true. Pete A. Tenorio had made that clear as stated that he is interested in the non-voting delegate seat. Four years in office and nothing to show for other than a fancy pamphlet handed out to everyone who attended the Commonwealth Address, which contained more pictures than reports on taxpayers account. Taotao Tano is concerned as to how much was spent on such a pamphlet including how much per diem will the Washington rep. and staff are going to collect for their trip to their own homeland, the CNMI and back to Washington.

Gregorio Cruz Jr. President, Taotao Tano

Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

## The Weather

### 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Fast winds 15 to 20 mph.

**▲86° ▼76°** 

### WEDNESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Fast winds 15 to 20 mph.

**▼75° ▲86°** 

### THURSDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▼76°** 

**▲85°** 

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲86° ▼76°** 

### **SATURDAY**



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲85° ▼76°** 

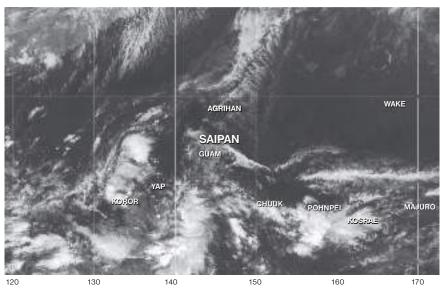
### Micronesia

Guam and Ro	ta Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 86	<b>▼</b> 76
Palau	Thunderstorms	<b>▲</b> 86	<b>▼</b> 78
Yap	Thunderstorms	<b>▲</b> 85	<b>▼</b> 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	<b>▲</b> 87	<b>▼77</b>
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 86	<b>▼</b> 75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	<b>▲</b> 84	▼74
Majuro	Thunderstorms	<b>▲</b> 82	<b>▼</b> 73

### **Around The Globe**

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 62	▼51
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	<b>≜</b> 82	▼57
Hong Kong	Showers	<b>▲</b> 84	₹75
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	<b>≜</b> 80	<b>▼</b> 72
London	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 72	₹52
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 69	▼57
Manila	Thunderstorms	<b>≜</b> 85	▼77
Melbourne	Rain	<b>▲</b> 61	▼50
Miami	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 85	▼72
New York	Partly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 72	₹55
Osaka	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 74	▼56
Paris	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 72	<b>▼</b> 55
Pusan	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 75	₹56
Rome	Partly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 72	▼52
Salem	Partly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 60	▼41
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 61	₹49
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 70	▼48
Tokyo	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 71	<b>▼</b> 58

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



#### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MAY 5, 2008

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak cold front extends southwestward from 25N146E to 21N141E then continues as a shear line to end at 19N130E. Scattered light showers are occurring north of the CNMI within 100 miles of the cold front while scattered light showers are found along and up to 60 miles north of the shear line. A monsoon trough extends southeastward from 10N130E through weak circulations centered north of Koror at 9N135E and southeast of Yap at 4N142E to end at EQ150. Winds converging near the trough are generating an area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms just north of Koror within 90 miles of a line from 8N133E to 15N136E. Convergent west winds south of the trough axis are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near the equator well south of Koror and Yap to the south of a line from 3N130E to 2N143E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with the circulation southeast of Yap cover an area between 2N and 8N  $\,$ from 141E to 144E. Trade-wind convergence is producing an area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae states. This area is bounded by a line from 7N145E to 6N166E to 3N165E back to 2N148E back to 7N145E. Scattered showers are also located over Tarawa and Butaritari atolls between 1N and 4N from 172E to 180.

Tides								
Saipan Harbor	10000							
1:59AM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet						
7:06AM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet						
2:21PM Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet						
9:20PM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet						

Washington, DC Partly Sunny ▲ 75 ▼ 57

Sunrise/Sunset							
Today	5:52AM	6:36PM					
Wednesday	5:51AM	6:36PM					
Thursday	5:51AM	6:36PM					
Friday	5:50AM	6:37PM					
Saturday	5:50AM	6:37PM					

A CONTRACT OF		
Today	6:01AM	7:28PM
Wednesday	7:00AM	8:37PM
Thursday	8:04AM	9:44PM
Friday	9:11AM	10:45PM
Saturday	10:16AM	11:38PM

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
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- A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings other activities by members of the business community. ■ SAMU'T SARI
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- the name of contact person, and phone number. Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12

### noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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the name of contact person, and a phone number ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to

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### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 8, 2008

- F	LIGHT	SCH	EDULE	AS OF	APRIL	. 8, 20	08
D	EPAR	RTURI	ES		ARF	RIVAL	S
Saipa	n-Rota			Rota-S	aipan		
CO 9313	8:30am	9:05am	3,4,7	CO 9598	11:10am	11:45am	1,2,6
Saipa	n-Guan	n		Guam	-Saipaı	n	
CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily	CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9597	8:30am	9:20am	1,2,5,6	CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	10:00am	3,4,7 via Rota	CO9598	10:15am	11:45am	1,2,6 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily	CO9600	10:45am	11:35am	3,4,5,7
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily	CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily	CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
Saipa	n-Narit	а		Narita	-Saipa	n	
NW 078	8:40am	2:00pm	Daily via	NW 076	10:15am	2:50pm	Daily
			Nagoya	NW 077	6:25pm	1:25am+1	Daily via
NW 075	4:45pm	7:25pm	Daily				Nagoya
Saipa	n-Osak	а		Osaka	-Saipa	n	
NW 083	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
Saipa	n-Nago	ya		Nagoy	a-Saip	an	
NW 078	8:40am	11:25am	Daily	NW 077	9:00pm	1:25am+1	Daily
Saipa	n-Mani	la		Manila	-Saipa	ın	
CO 895	4:45pm	6:35pm	6	CO 890	9:15am	2:55pm	6
CO 895	6:45pm	8:35pm	3	CO 890	11:45am	5:35pm	3
Saipa	n-Seou	I		Seoul-	Saipar	1	
OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ 605	9:00am	2:30pm	2,4,6,7
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7	OZ 603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7	OZ 603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6
Saipa	n-Busa	n		Busan	-Saipa	n	
OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,4,5,7	OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	3,4,6,7
Guam	-Manila	1		Manila	-Guan	1	
CO 891	6:00am	10:30am	3 via Yap	CO 894	11:20am	4:55pm	2,7
			and Koror	CO 894	7:45pm	1:20am+1	6
CO 893	6:30am	8:05am	6	CO 892	9:45pm	6:30am+1	3 via Koror
CO 893	8:25am	10:00am	2,7				and Yap
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	5 via Koror	CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily	CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7	PR 110	10:15pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7
Saipa	n-Guan	zhou		Guanz	hou-Sa	aipan	
CZ 3008	5:00am	8:00am	2,6	CZ 3007	8:00pm	4:00am+1	1,5
Guam	-Hongk	ong		Hongk	ong-G	uam	
CO 909	6:40pm	9:25pm	1,5	CO 910	10:35pm	5:15am+1	1,5
Guam	-Rota			Rota-C	auam		
CO 9598	10:15am	10:45am	1,2,6	CO 9313	9:30am	10:00am	3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

### FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

ETA

ETD

ETA Frequency

		<u> </u>					-
Guam-Ro FRE 100 Rota-Sai	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 113 FRE 115 FRE 117	11:40am 1:00pm 2:30pm	11:50am 1:10pm 2:40pm	Daily Daily Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-R	lota			FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Gua	am			FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	Tinian-Sa	inan w/	connecti	na
Guam-Ro	ota						ııg
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	flights to	Rota or (	Guam**	
Rota-Sai	pan			FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Saipan-R	lota			FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Rota-Gu	am			FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Saipan-T	inian			FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

### **NMI CRIME STOPPERS**

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■ \*11 on any PTI cellular phone

### Letters to the Editor

### A legislative catastrophe or a wake-up call for teachers

terms and to take control of teachers is manipulative when it placed two separate issues on the same initiative. Everyone agrees that board members should only serve two terms but to try and take away the rights of teachers with the same initiative is disturbing and could even be catastrophic. We saw the same strategy work in reverse with the 1995 Constitutional Convention that placed all the recommended changes to the Constitution in one initiative that included land alienation. Everyone knows that nothing was approved by the people because of the one issue of land being tied with all the other recommendations. The issues should be separated but the real question for teachers is, will the initiative be a catastrophe or an awakening?

The initiative takes away from the CNMI Constitution the right of teachers to bargain, to purposely impede the ability of teachers to place a check on the board and administration. Teachers are the drive train of the system because teachers serve the main function of PSS, yet teachers at present have the least to say about education policy. No one on the board or in government wants to help teachers; they just want to control the teachers, which is evident in the proposed initiative and even more obvious when teachers can't even get the governor to help them with a simple election process. The Legislature should be trying to help teachers place a check on the board instead of trying make teachers even more powerless and dependant on the board.

I bet the board knew about the initiative but teachers didn't. Every stakeholder in PSS should know why teachers weren't at least consulted on this proposed initiative, which speaks volumes about the attitude of the board and the Legislature toward teachers because it is clear teachers are being treated worse than alien workers. In fact, alien employees have better contracts than teachers, with better guarantees and perks like insurance. The only plus for teachers is the amount of pay. It should be clear to everyone with common sense that teachers have no say and now the Legislature is trying to make sure teachers will never have a real say by taking away their bargaining rights. I warned teachers and now the truth is coming to the surface but will teachers finally wake up?

The board is conducting a two-year review of the Commissioner's performance but who do you think reviews the performance of the board? Teachers, because we are the ones who actually see first hand and actually feel the effects of the board's policies (good and there are no checks and balances on the board because teachers are not exercising their right to bargain. The board has made it clear they don't want teachers to have their right to bargain but the 19th century model of top-down leadership displayed by the board is the typical behavior of leadership that brought unions to power in the first place. The board does not want teachers to influence policy as I was told by different board members to "sit in the corner and be quite" and "if you don't go along with the Board I will cut your legs."

Why isn't the board pushing for the passage of the bill that changes the two-year limit law for teacher contracts such a high honor. But teachers should remember the words of the late Barbara Gillis who was the CNMI 1999 Teacher of Year when she said: "As we go from the 19th century factory model of schools, to a 21st century model of prevention, teachers must see their role as being bigger than the classroom. We must learn to, and be willing to become leaders, and work with other educational professionals and community leaders to educate our politicians, the media, village leaders, parents, students and one another for what needs to be done for our children." As you can tell, I have been doing exactly what she said, only I have been extending my

sentative of teachers. It's the teachers' own fault. Given the treatment I was subjected to by the previous board and ACT it may take federal authorities or a national union to intervene and guarantee teachers protection before they will come forward and organize to demand their right to collective bargaining.

The governance system of PSS as presently written in the Constitution depends on teachers to create checks and balances on the system. The proposed changes by the initiative to teachers' rights should be highly protested by teachers and the parents of children who depend on teachers to educate their children. Parents who care about their child and what happens in the classroom need to exercise their common sense and support their child's teacher first before supporting the preferences of board members and politicians who want teachers to be powerless. The governor and the board need to answer the questions I submitted to bring an end to the teacher rep controversy and stop avoiding the inevitable. Teachers need answers, not a law taking away their rights!

As for the proposed initiative, I have already requested a public hearing to be conducted by the Senate before they vote. I have done all I can do on this issue and it is now in the hands of teachers and the community to speak up and have the teacher rep portion of the initiative stricken before it is put on the ballot or we will face the same phenomena we faced in 1995 that served to accomplish nothing. It was bad enough the lower house passed a constitutional initiative without a public hearing or consulting the very people it would affect. But the initiative does prove the lack of respect for teachers that exist with the governor, the board and the Legislature. It is time to wake up, teachers!

so teachers can acquire permanent stainterest to help teachers and the entire CNMI. We need more teachers to step up to the challenge. There are also two AG opinions that clearly state that "the Board of Education should not interfere or have any influence in the Teacher Representative Selection process" but now the board wants all power. Teachers already

have the power to determine a selection process but teachers must function as a "collective of 50 percent plus 1" majority to exercise full authority over the Teacher Rep selection. What I still don't understand is how teachers encourage their students to be informed and active citizens but fail to organize and exercise their U.S. and CNMI Constitutional right to bargain collectively, which is the real problem. Teachers have failed to live up to our responsibility in the Constitution to become the recognized exclusive bargaining repre-

Ambrose M. Bennett Former BOE Teacher Rep. Kagman, Saipan

The governance system of PSS as presently written in the Constitution depends on teachers to create checks and balances on the system. The proposed changes by the initiative to teachers' rights should be highly protested by teachers and the parents of children who depend on teachers to educate their children.

bad). Every person with common sense should know that your child's teachers knows more about what needs to be done to help your child than a person on the board. The board may run the business but teachers do the primary work. But teachers will never hold the board accountable without their bargaining rights. In fact, the whole fiasco created by the board to get rid of me was all about making sure teachers never come to power but many teachers just didn't get it. Teachers should be pressing the board and the governor to answer the certified questions I submitted to them after the court refused because everyone knows they still need to be answered if the board truly wants to help teachers with the selection process.

Governance over the school system is supposed to have the same type of checks and balances that we see in all the other aspect of governing. However, tus? Why did the 15th Legislature pigeonhole the bill so it would never to see the light of day when it won't cost a dime to make HQ Teachers permanent? Why aren't the PRAXIS HQ Teachers demanding permanent status or do they even care? But the bigger question is why are teachers remaining so quiet, failing to organize and being such poor citizens when it comes to laws affecting them and their own livelihood? Wake up teachers, because it should be clear that no one cares unless you first care about yourself!

But I'll tell you why teachers are so dormant: All governors have failed to properly and completely carry out the law and the former board and ACT have created an environment where only an administrator feels comfortable as the Teacher Rep, which is why no teacher wants to step forward for

## United we stand, divided we act, Part 2

In the first part of my "United We Stand, Divided We Act" letter, I illustrated two groups traveling in one direction but on different routes. Now there is a newly formed group heading in the same direction as the two groups I've mentioned in the first part on this letter. I could not distinguish who was traveling along the Beach Road and who was traveling on Middle Road until this new development but I can now possibly identify the three groups' route on the way to Susupe.

On Oct. 15, 2004, a group of longtime foreign nationals on the island (10 years and above) registered their movement to officially advocate and lobby for improved immigration status for all foreign nationals on the island. A lot registered on the hope that their residency and working status can be improved. Since then, they find themselves as if they have entered a dark tunnel, hoping that at the end, there is light. They were criticized, some indigenous people wanted them to go home, lambasted them for collecting money from members and the latest one, according Mr. Vicente M. Sablan of Kagman in his letter to the editor dated April 25, 2008 (Dekada Movement and Mr. Woodruff)

that "this is no small potato." This is the group traveling along Beach Road, going to Susupe in a straight-ahead route. This group waved to a lot of people along Beach Road to come and join them on their quest to improve the immigration status of all foreign nationals on the island. Some individuals anxiously watching, others simply ignored it because they don't want to enter a dark tunnel. After three tough years of struggle, the anxious group saw the light at the end of the tunnel.

### **Light at the End of the Tunnel**

In July 2007, an individual came to Saipan to interview guest workers from Saipan, Tinian and Rota, most of whom are parents of U.S. citizen children on the island, in her concern for these guest workers. See "The plight of alien workers and their US citizen kids" dated July 25, 2007. She was proclaimed a human rights advocate when the CNMI House of Representatives unanimously passed H.B 15-38, the Commonwealth Employment Act of 2007. The bill calls for the guest workers to leave the CNMI for six months after they have worked in the CNMI for three consecutive years. That was also the time

when a scheduled U.S. House hearing on CNMI federalization happened on Aug. 15, 2007. With the help of the human rights advocate, guest workers gathered themselves and advocated for federalization of the island. This is the group that traveled along Middle Road heading toward Susupe.

Here then comes the new group, emerging from somewhere in Dandan and San Vicente area heading toward Susupe and eventually merging near SM Mart intersection with the human rights advocates on their way to Susupe. They formed a coalition, expecting to unite all foreign nationals in the island. That means that, from the original 26 organizations of foreign nationals (according to the UFOs record), it now becomes 27! Wow, what a volume for a small community. I am inviting these three groups to gather at the small but unique pavilion, "the Bicol Pavilion" in Susupe. It is small in size but all six regions in the southern part of the Philippines are well represented and emphasized. The uniqueness of our pavilion stands to unite everyone on the island because it is open to all the people of Saipan, Tinian and Rota and if you are there as one group, call us and we will be there for you in unity. Light at the

end of the tunnel is now visible. The Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 and Local Foreign National Workers Act of 2008 is on the way and is inevitable. The movement that started this fight four years ago is now approaching the end of the tunnel where light is waiting to shine

#### **On Federalization and Resi**dency Status

There are now three groups advocating that they are supporting federalization and the local initiative bill, the new Foreign National Workers Act of 2008 legislation that was just introduced by independent lawmakers, together with four other. Why are we focusing on federalization when it is really inevitable? Check out the summary and the background of S. 2739. http://energy. senate.gov/public/index.cfm:

"The federal government owns nearly 653 million acres of land in the United States (28.8 percent). As the owner of these lands, the United States government has the responsibility to protect its value and history for the current and future generation. In order to meet that challenge, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee has packaged a bicameral and bipartisan group of land and water bills into S.2739, the Consolidated natural Resources Act of 2008"

There are major provisions in these packages from Title 1 to 8. The Immigration and Nationality Act to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands S.1634 and H.R 3079 subject for transition period through December 31, 2017.

Please take note that the CNMI federalization issue came out in the last two titles No. 7 and 8. If the Committee of Energy and Natural Resources decided to limit the major provisions to 6, there would be no federalization issue in CNMI. The Summary and Background did not specifically mention anything about human rights and movements of long time guest workers in CNMI so they would consider extending federalization because of their demands and advocacy. Title V111 says S.2739 would amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 in order to improve legal services, infrastructure and Education Services for the associated states of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau.

Carlito J. Marquez Puerto Rico, Saipan

## **Business**

# 'Saipan's Finest' wins NMC's biz concept contest

With its proposed bungalow resort equipped with unique glass floors and constructed over shallow ocean waters, "Saipan's Finest" prevailed in last Friday's Business Concept Competition at the Northern Marianas College by winning first place. The team, composed of Kurt Songsong and Perry Yalolmar, will be splitting the first prize award of \$1,000.

The judges for the competition included Lillian Pangelinan, administrator for Banking and Insurance at the CNMI Department of Commerce; Greg Calvo, loan officer for the Commonwealth Development Authority; and Lee Francia, loan officer for the Bank of Saipan.

Second place was awarded to "Nova, LLC," which presented a proposal that featured a stateof-the-art arcade accompanied by a snack bar and nightclub on the second floor. The team, which won \$750, was composed of Charmaine Hofschneider, Quincy Johnson, Chris Matias, and Verena Cabrera.

Team "Marianas Skates" won third place with its business concept of an indoor roller-skating rink with an arcade and private party room. Team members included Tania Ada, Normida Creecy, and Mike Ramon, who were awarded \$500. The fourth place prize of \$250

went to "Fill It Up," whose team members included Russel Camacho, Mike Manansala, and Sandra Arnold. The team proposed a private gas station chain on Saipan to compete with Shell and Mobil, and their source for wholesale fuel would be Petronas Oil & Gas, which is owned by the Malaysian government.

"We're all very proud of our students and impressed by the range of ideas and delivery of the presentations," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "We hope the competition fuels the students' entrepreneurial spirit so they can further economy. (NMC)

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—

Yahoo Inc. Chief Executive

Jerry Yang has gotten what he

wanted: a chance to prove his

company is worth more than

the \$47.5 billion that Micro-

soft Corp. offered to buy the

It will be a daunting chal-

lenge, as Yang will be pointedly

reminded Monday when inves-

tors are expected to show how

little they think of Yahoo with-

out a takeover bid on the table.

Faced with resistance from

Yang and the rest of Yahoo's

board, Microsoft withdrew its

Many analysts believe Ya-

hoo's stock price, which had

climbed nearly 50 percent since

Microsoft's initial offer, will

surrender most, if not all, of that

gain, leaving the Sunnyvale-

based company's market value

bound to question whether the re-

jection of Microsoft's sweetened

\$33-per-share offer was driven

Disillusioned shareholders are

around \$30 billion.

offer over the weekend.

Internet pioneer.

Yahoo CEO on hot seat after

develop their ideas into fruition and enhance the variety of businesses found in the CNMI."

The Business Concept Competition was coordinated by NMC Small Business Development Center director and Business Department chair Eric Plinske and business faculty member Rik Villegas.

The annual competition is designed to achieve four objectives: promote economic development in the CNMI by stimulating viable business ideas; encourage business community mentors to serve as a resource for NMC students pursuing entrepreneurial interests; provide NMC students with hands-on professional experience through which classroom concepts and theories can be applied and tested; and enhance general understanding of the importance of entrepreneurship to the CNMI



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First place winners of the NMC Business Concept Competition pose with their \$1,000 cash prize and the competition's judges and coordiators. From left, Perry Yalolmar, Lillian Pangelinan, Eric Plinske, Lee Francia, Rik Villegas, Kurt Songsong, and Greg Calvo

### Wall Street looks for evidence of rally

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Wall Street goes into the new week in an upbeat mood, with investors growing more confident that the economy and the financial markets are heading toward a second-half recovery.

There's been a steady stream lately of decent earnings reports and mostly benign economic data, and there's a sense that the credit crisis that pummeled stocks since last fall is nearing an end. For the first time in weeks, there's optimism that the government might have actually staved off a deep recession.

The U.S. consumer clearly isn't that cheerful, judging from consumer confidence figures released last week, but traders and portfolio managers on Wall Street often get ahead of themselves, looking past any bad news and toward future profits.

Analysts are a little more

"The market has cleared its hurdles, but the race isn't over yet - we haven't crossed the finish line," said Chris Johnson, president of Johnson Research Group. "You'll now start to see lots of money that will be migrating sector to sector because everyone has been waiting for this momentum."

Johnson has a very bullish ite index rose 2.23 percent.

stance for stocks in the near term, calling for up to a 10 percent rise within the next four to six weeks. But, he's also realistic - "markets have a tendency to be overbought really quickly." That was one reason the Dow Jones industrials pared some of its gains Friday, gaining 48 points after being up more than 100 earlier in the day and shooting up 190 in the previous session.

cent over the course of the week, the Standard & Poor's 500 index ended up 1.15 percent, and the Nasdaq compos-

more by emotion and ego than sound business sense.

The Dow gained 1.29 per-

nixing Microsoft's \$47B bid said Darren Chervitz, co-manager of the Jacob Internet Fund, which owns Yahoo stock. "I am not even sure if Yahoo cares about its shareholders because they didn't show much regard for shareholders' best interests in this process."

> Despite such negative sentiment, Yahoo shares are unlikely to immediately fall back to their \$19.18 pre-bid price, partly because some investors may still be holding out hope that the software maker will renew its takeover attempt if Yahoo continues to struggle.

> Yahoo shares finished last week at \$28.67, slightly below the \$29.40 per share that Microsoft was offering before Chief Executive Steve Ballmer agreed to raise the offer to \$33 per share in a last-ditch effort to get a deal done.

> Accompanied by fellow Yahoo co-founder David Filo, Yang flew to Seattle Saturday to inform Ballmer that the company wouldn't sell for less than \$37 per share - a price that Yahoo's stock hasn't reached since

### Corporate boards' pay grows with workload

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—After ConAgra Foods' board slashed the company's dividend by 34 percent as part of a restructuring plan, a few shareholders suggested the board should also feel the pain and slash its own pay by roughly one-third.

Not surprisingly, the suggestion shareholder Don Hudgens made during the 2006 annual meeting, didn't fly even though former ConAgra chief executive Mike Harper supported that idea. Board chairman Steven Goldstone was quick to defend what ConAgra pays its directors, saying it is difficult to find and keep

good people on the board.

Board pay has been steadily increasing in recent years as new regulations increased the workload for directors and the use of compensation consultants became more common. And the only check on board member pay is shareholder outrage, which compensation experts say is rare, so the increases are likely to continue.

Half of the directors included in a recent study of director pay made more than \$100,031 annually, and that was 12 percent higher than a year earlier, according to watchdog group The Corporate Library.

"There are extremes, but there are usually extraordinary reasons for those extremes," Researcher Paul Hodgson said. For example, the highest-paid directors are often former CEOs. In 2006, Allen Wise, former CEO of Coventry Health Care, received \$7.7 million, and Dennis Horowitz of Wolverine Tube Inc. received \$5.94 million; both totals include compensation that's part of their retirement packages.

Half of all directors made between \$52,479 and \$165,401, with bigger companies generally paying more, Hodgson said.



Yahoo workers walk in front of Yahoo headquarters in Sunnyvale, Calif., Wednesday, April 30, 2008.



13,058.20 +48.20 **NASDAQ** 2,476.99 -3.72 S&P 1,413.90 +4.56 **MONEY MARKET** Australian Dollar 1.0655 **British Pound** 0.5062 1.0179 Canadian Dollar 6.9938 Chinese Renmbi 0.6469 7.7946 Indian Rupee 40.556 Indonesian Rupiah 9231.5 105.19 Jananese Yen Malaysian Ringgit 3.163 **New Zealand Dollar** 2.0165 42.335 Philippine Peso 1.3619 Singapore Dollar South Korean Won 1009.75 Swiss Franc 1.0543 Taiwan Dollar 30.489 **Thailand Baht** 31.72 In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

**ASIAN MARKETS** 

HONG KONG

AUSTRAI IA

JAKARTA

K. LUMPUR

SINGAPORE

BANGKOK

LEADING **INDICATORS** 

**DOW** 

# **Nation**

## Sea lions shot dead as salmon battle rages



Police and investigators from Oregon Fish and Wildlife investigate the death of sea lions held in this cage at the Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River between Washington and Oregon, east of Portland, Sunday May 4, 2008.

**PORTLAND, Ore.** (AP)—Six federally protected sea lions were apparently shot to death on the Columbia River as they lay in open traps put out to ensnare the animals, which eat endangered salmon. State and federal authorities are investigating.

The discovery came one day after three elephant seals were found shot to death at a breeding ground in central California.

Trapping will be suspended during the investigation, said Rick Hargrave, a spokesman for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife who was at the scene Sunday.

The carcasses of the four California sea lions and two Steller sea lions were found Sunday around noon below the Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River on the border of Oregon and Washington.

The six animals appear to have been shot by somebody on the Washington side during the night, said Brian Gorman, a spokesman for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Two open cages each contained the carcasses of two California sea lions and one Steller sea lion, he said.

Necropsies were planned for all the animals, and the area was being treated as a crime scene by state and federal agencies, Gorman said.

Investigators will try to determine whether there is any link between the animals killed Sunday on the Columbia and the elephant seals killed Saturday

near San Simeon in California. Gorman said. Seven California sea lions were trapped on the Columbia starting April 24 after the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals approved their capture. One died during a medical inspection before transfer to a Sea World park.

Washington and Oregon have been granted federal authorization to capture or kill as many as 85 sea lions a year for five years at the base of the dam, where they feed on endangered salmon headed upriver to spawn.

### FBI: Suspected pipe bomb damages San Diego court

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A suspected pipe bomb exploded at a federal courthouse in downtown San Diego early Sunday, damaging the front entrance and blowing out a window, authorities said. No injuries were reported.

Few people were around the building, which is a block from nightclubs in the Gaslamp Quarter, when the powerful blast also damaged the lobby area of the Edward J. Schwartz Federal Courthouse about 1:40 a.m., said FBI spokeswoman April Langwell.

The bomb was reported by two guards in the building, agents combed the front courtyard after the area was swept for explosives. No arrests have been made.

Debris was found lodged in a window about eight stories up the AT&T building that faces the courthouse.

The evidence collected will be sent to an FBI laboratory in Virginia for analysis by bomb experts.

Authorities said that surveillance cameras outside the building may provide information, but that no cameras directly face the doorway.

Streets in the area were closed who were uninjured. About 40 until early Sunday afternoon.

### Obama: Clinton's talk on Iran too much like Bush's



OLIS Barack

Obama likened Hillary Rodham Clinton to President Bush for threatening to "totally obliterate" Iran if it attacks Israel and called her gas-tax holiday a gimmick as he tried to fend off her challenge ahead of two pivotal Democratic primaries.

Clinton, in turn, stood by both her comment on Iran and her tax proposal as she gave chase in Indiana and North Carolina to the front-runner for the nomination.

The competitors squabbled

over the issues - one foreign, one domestic - from a short distance, first during separate appearances on Sunday news shows and then as they courted voters for Tuesday's primaries.

"This is the final push," Clinton told a cheering crowd of volunteer canvassers in Fort Wayne, emboldened by her Pennsylvania victory two weeks ago as well as polls that show her in a close race in Indiana and narrowing Obama's lead in North Carolina.

A few hours later and a few miles away, Obama urged an audience of several thousand to vote for him. "I need help," he said.



### **BIONIC BEAK**

Beauty, a rescued Alaskan bald eagle, drops a piece of salmon at a raptor recovery center near St. Marie's, Idaho, Wednesday, April 23, 2008. A surgery in May 2008 will provide Beauty with a new artificial beak, to replace the one damaged by a gunshot wound.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### **Bush hails recovery of** tornado-leveled Kansas town

GREENSBURG, Kan. (AP)—President Bush hailed the resilience of this town and its tiny high school graduating class Sunday, one year after a tornado barreled through with astonishing fury. Never before had Bush delivered a commencement address at a high school, and his presence was meant to reflect how far Greensburg has come. From nearly total devastation last May 4, this town is recovering, and hope has been rekindled. At the center of attention is the Class of 2008—10 boys and eight girls. They finished their senior year at a makeshift campus of trailers. "We celebrate the resurgence of a town that stood tall when its buildings and homes were laid low," Bush said in his remarks at the temporary high school gym.

#### Trial nears for student accused of transporting explosives

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—For more than eight months, Youssef Samir Megahed has been in jail, a wild detour from the seemingly innocuous road trip to see Atlantic Coast beaches that he says he and a friend were enjoying. The U.S. government views the trip differently, accusing Megahed and Ahmed Abdellatif Sherif Mohamed of transporting explosives materials in the trunk of their car as they traveled through South Carolina. While the pair sat side-by-side during the traffic stop that led to their arrests, Megahed is scheduled to be the first to face a federal jury when his trial is scheduled to begin on Monday. He is charged with illegally transporting explosives and illegally possessing destructive devices.

### Suspect charged in Philly cop's slaying; 2nd suspect sought

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—One suspect was charged and a second was being sought Sunday in the killing of a police officer who was shot with an assault rifle while investigating a report of bank robbery, police said. Levon Warner, 38, was charged with murder, robbery, conspiracy and related offenses, Deputy Commissioner William Blackburn said at a news conference Sunday. A second man, Eric Floyd, 33, believed to have escaped from a halfway house in Berks County, was being sought on a homicide charge. A third man, Howard Cain, 33, was killed by police. The dead officer, Sgt. Stephen Liczbinski, a 12-year veteran who would have turned 40 on Tuesday, was responding to a report of a robbery of a bank inside a grocery store around 11:30 a.m. Saturday.

#### Officials focus on boiler in deadly Miss. paper mill blast

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—Investigators hoping to determine the cause of a deadly explosion at a paper mill must wait to make sure that a boiler being restarted when the blast occurred is safe, the company said Sunday. At least 400 International Paper Co. employees, including contractors, were on site Saturday when the explosion tore through mill in Redwood, about 30 miles west of Jackson. One worker was killed and 17 others were injured, some critically. The boiler had been shut down for annual maintenance before the blast. Marcus Christopher Broome, a 28-year-old contract worker, was killed, the Warren County coroner said.

### Beetle-ravaged forests prompt camp closures in the Rockies

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP)—Vacationers will have fewer places to pitch their tents this summer in Colorado and Wyoming, and they can place the blame on bugs.

The U.S. Forest Service has closed some popular campgrounds in the two states because of concern that trees killed by the bark beetles that are ravaging forests across the West could topple onto unsuspecting visitors.

Bark beetles have always been a part of forests in the West, but warming temperatures and an abundance of aging lodgepole pines that haven't been thinned by fires have allowed populations of the hungry insects to explode. They now infest nearly 3,600 square miles of forest in the two states.

Swaths of 60-foot trees killed

by the quarter-inch bugs may be easily toppled by wind or other disturbances.

"If they were to fall on a tent camp, they would probably kill or injure the people inside," said Francisco Valenzuela with the Forest Service in Washington, D.C.

The Forest Service recently announced the closure of 21 campgrounds and recreation sites in Colorado and Wyoming for the summer. Seventeen other sites will open late, after dangerous trees are removed.

Forest Service officials say campgrounds in other parts of the country have been closed because of beetle infestations in the past, but never on the scale seen this year in Colorado and Wyoming.

## Asia

# Cyclone kills at least 350 in Myanmar

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)— A powerful cyclone killed more than 350 people and destroyed thousands of homes, state-run media said Sunday. Some dissident groups worried that the military junta running Myanmar would be reluctant to ask for international help.

Tropical Cyclone Nargis hit at a delicate time for the junta, less than a week ahead of a crucial referendum on a new constitution. Should the junta be seen as failing disaster victims, voters who already blame the regime for ruining the economy and squashing democracy could take out their frustrations at the ballot box. But state media indicated Monday the referendum was still on.

Some in Yangon complained the 400,000-strong military was doing little to help victims after Saturday's storm.

"Where are all those uniformed people who are always ready to beat civilians?" said a trishaw driver who refused to be identified for fear of retribution. "They should come out in full force and help clean up the areas and restore electricity."

With the city plunged into almost total darkness overnight, security concerns mounted, with reports of robberies in some working class suburbs circulating. Many shops sold their goods through partially opened doors or iron grills.

Residents, as well as Buddhist monks from the city's many monasteries, banded together Monday, wielding axes and knives to clear roads of tree trunks and branches torn off by the cyclones 120 mph winds.

Myanmar, also known as Burma, has been under military rule since 1962. Its government has been widely criticized for human rights abuses and suppression of pro-democracy parties such as the one led by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest for almost 12 of the past 18 years.

Last September, at least 31 people were killed and thousands more were detained when the military cracked down on peaceful protests led by Buddhist monks and democracy advocates.

The Forum for Democracy in Burma and other dissident groups outside of Myanmar urged the military junta Sunday to allow aid groups to operate freely in the wake of the cyclone - something it has been reluctant to do in the past.

It would be difficult for other countries to help unless they received a request from Myanmar's military rulers.

"International expertise in dealing with natural disasters is urgently required. The military regime is ill-prepared to deal with the aftermath of the cyclone," said Naing Aung, secretary general of the Thailand-based forum.

The U.N. said from New York that a disaster assessment and coordination team has been organized and was on standby to assist the Myanmar government and was prepared to help mobilize more international aid. Shari Villarosa, the top gon, said the storm's whipping winds and torrential downpour had caused "major devastation throughout the city." "The Burmese are saying

American diplomat in Yan-

they have never seen anything like this, ever," Villarosa told The Associated Press. "Trees are down. Electricity lines are down. Our Burmese staff have lost their roofs."

Residents lined up to buy water since lack of electricitydriven pumps left most households dry. Some walked to the city's lakes to wash.



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, people walk past fallen trees at a street in Myanmar's biggest city Yangon Saturday, May 3, 2008.

### 2nd round of China-Tibet talks planned

SHENZHEN, China (AP)— Chinese officials and envoys of the Dalai Lama have agreed to a second round of talks, China's state-run news agency said in an apparent sign of progress in easing tensions raised by violent anti-government riots in Tibet.

Xinhua also said, however, that the Chinese officials told the Dalai Lama's envoys at their first meeting Sunday that the protests had spawned new obstacles to communication.

International critics have accused China of heavy-handed tactics in quelling the antigovernment riots and protests in Tibet and Tibetan areas of western China. Some experts believe Beijing agreed to meet with the envoys to defuse that criticism ahead of the Beijing Olympics in August.

The Xinhua report late Sunday said that Chinese officials had answered questions raised by the Dalai Lama's envoys at the meeting in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen.

"The two sides agreed another round of contact would be held at an appropriate time," Xinhua said, citing the unidentified sources.

But Xinhua added that the Chinese officials told the Dalai Lama's envoys that the violent protests "had given rise to new obstacles for resuming contacts and consultations with the Dalai side."

President Hu Jintao said in Beijing as the two parties met that he hoped for a "positive outcome" and that the "door of dialogue remains open," Xinhua reported earlier Sunday.

Xinhua said the meeting took place "at the repeated requests made by the Dalai side."

The meeting's exact location in Shenzhen, close to Hong Kong, was not announced. A large group of foreign reporters waited outside a palm tree-lined statehouse compound in suburban Shenzhen that was believed to be the meeting venue. But no sign of the parties was seen.

The Dalai Lama has repeatedly said he was not behind the recent unrest, and that his envoys planned to ask China to address the accusations, said Samdhong Rinpoche, prime minister of the self-declared Tibetan government-in-exile based in Dharmsala, India.

The Dalai Lama's side also wanted to push for an easing of tensions in Tibetan areas of China, Rinpoche told The Associated Press, adding that the talks would last a day or two.

But even as the talks took place, China kept up its verbal attacks on the Dalai Lama.

Xinhua quoted Chinese experts on Tibet as saying the Tibetan Youth Congress, an exile group, was dedicated to separating Tibet from China and was the "armed spearhead of the 14th Dalai Lama group."

It quoted a researcher from the Beijing-based China Tibetology Research Center as saying the Tibetan Youth Congress was behind the March 14 riots.

RP rebels kill 3, wound 13 in ambush ing at least 13, Panesa told The MANILA, Philippines (AP)—

Communist rebels ambushed an army convoy in the southern Philippines with land mines and machine-gun fire Monday, killing three soldiers and wounding 13.

Two army trucks carrying troops back to barracks from a combat operation hit several land mines along a highway in President Roxas town in North Cotabato province, army Maj. Lyndon Panesa said in a telephone interview.

About 20 New People's Army rebels then opened fire on the soldiers from the side of the road, killing three and woundAssociated Press.

Before reaching the ambush site, one of the trucks broke down, forcing the convoy to stop. Panesa said he suspected a villager tipped off the rebels because the convoy came under attack farther down the road.

Panesa said troops were scouring the area for a wounded rebel who was apparently left behind after the clash. "We will finish this fight. We will not let down," he said.

The rebels withdrew from peace talks in 2004 after accusing the government of instigating their inclusion on U.S. and

European Union terrorist lists.

The Philippine military chief, Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, said last month the armed forces were on track to crush the insurgency in two years.

He said the number of rebel fighters dropped from 5,781 in December 2007 to 5,470 so far this year because of battlefield losses, surrenders and desertions.

The rebels have waged a rural-based insurrection, attacking police and military outposts and surviving on the collection of so-called "revolutionary taxes" from companies in areas where they operate.

### PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

#### Philippine rice tender fails with only 1 bidder

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government failed to buy rice Monday after a tender to increase its buffer stock attracted only one bidder, highlighting global anxiety over the staple. The National Food Authority, the state-run grain importer, was seeking to buy 675,000 tons of rice to shore up its stockpiles. The government said last week it has already secured enough volume to make up for a 10 percent domestic shortfall. Only one company, Vietnam Southern Food. Corp., submitted a bid in Monday's tender, and even it did not comply with the required documents, NFA Deputy Administrator Ludovico Jarina told reporters. The Philippines, the world's top rice importer, wants respective governments to guarantee that delivery contracts will be met.

### **Philippines' Muslim rebels** withdraw from village

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Muslim separatist rebels withdrew from a southern Philippine village and allowed about 1,000 Christian farmers to return after tensions flared over a land dispute, a military official said Monday. The standoff in the coastal village of Sangay highlighted the fragile situation in the southern Philippines, where mediator Malaysia announced it was pulling out cease-fire monitors amid a lack of progress in settling a decades-long Muslim insurgency. Moro Islamic Liberation Front guerrillas entered the village in Sultan Kudarat province last Wednesday demanding food, confiscating rice and sending Christian residents fleeing, Mayor Rolando Garcia said. Rebel spokesman Eid Kabalu said the occupation occurred because of competing claims to the land, but the action had not been approved by rebel leaders.

### RP officials eye disputed **Spratlys as tourist destination**

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Want to dive in disputed waters? A team of marine and eco-tourism experts has begun assessing the potential of transforming a Philippine-occupied island in the contested Spratly archipelago into an ultimate tourist hideaway, officials said. The experts, who began their weeklong study Thursday, will study if Pag-asa, the largest of nine islands and reefs occupied by Philippine forces, could be turned into a dive spot and resort, Rosendo Mantes, mayor of island's township, said Sunday. Pagasa lies in the South China Sea about 480 kilometers (300 miles) west of the western Philippine province of Palawan.

#### Philippines disappointed with Malaysian comments in talks

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government said Saturday it was disappointed with a Malaysian official for expressing impatience over the slow progress of the peace talks with Muslim separatist rebels brokered by Malaysia. Romeo Montenegro—spokesman for the presidential adviser on the peace process, Jesus Dureza—said the "perceived delay" in the talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front is due to the government's need to address "constitutional issues" connected to a Muslim homeland in the country's south. He said in a statement Saturday that Malaysian mediator Othman Abdul Razak's "public display of exasperation and unduly blaming government for the delay is totally unexpected from one who is tasked to facilitate."

SAIPAN TRIBUNE TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008 **17** 

# World

# 15 dead after boat sinks in Amazon

**SAO PAULO, Brazil** (AP)—A for, Silva said. boat ferrying at least 80 people home from a party sank in Brazil's Amazon region early Sunday, killing at least 15 and leaving dozens missing, according to rescue officials and Brazil's government.

The wooden Comandante Sales ferryboat capsized in a pre-dawn rainstorm on the Solimoes River, one of the Amazon's largest tributaries, said Fire Lt. Col. Raimundo Rodrigues da Silva.

It was unclear how many passengers the Comandante Sales was authorized to carry, but authorities said the ferry had been grounded several months ago after failing an inspection. Boats serve as buses in the area because there are few roads.

Rescue workers had recovered the bodies of 15 people by Sunday evening when the search was called off for the night, according to Agencia Brasil, the government's official news agency. Most of those who died were women, and several dozen other people were unaccounted

The search was scheduled to resume Monday, and an investigation into the cause of the accident is expected to take at least three months. Navy Lt. Raimundo Lenilton de Araujo told Agencia Brasil that torrential rains may have been a factor.

Amazon boats are frequently overloaded with passengers and cargo, which also may have been a factor, Silva said.

Revelers had rented the boat to travel from their small river town to another for a party, Brazilian media reported.

Some survivors swam to shore while others were rescued by other boats in the area, local media reported-although authorities did not know how many survived.

Boat accidents have killed more than two dozen people in Brazil since February.

Rescue workers search the capsized Comandante Sales boat in the Solimoes River near Manacapuru in Brazil's Amazonas state, Sunday, May 4, 2008.



### **WORLD BRIEFS**

### **Documents show UK post-WWII** dilemma over Jewish refugees

LONDON (AP)—Documents released Monday show how the British government tried to send thousands of Palestine-bound Jewish survivors of the Nazi genocide back to postwar Germany without inflaming world opinion. Could it be done? The answer was no. It was just two years after the end of the war and the world was outraged by the systematic murder of 6 million Jews by the Nazis in what became known as the Holocaust. Despite the best efforts of early spin doctors to portray the move in the most sympathetic light, the decision to turn away the more than 4,500 Jews on board the Exodus refugee ship turned into a humanitarian and public relations debacle for Britain. The story is detailed in more than 400 pages of formerly secret documents at Britain's National Archives made available to the public on Monday.

#### Rice pushes for peace progress; Israel denies hidden agenda

**JERUSALEM** (AP)—Facing mounting Palestinian frustration at the pace of peace talks, the United States leaned on Israel on Sunday to lift restrictions that chafe West Bank residents and stifle an already limping economy. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice did not directly criticize close U.S. ally Israel, but had unusually direct remarks about the consequences of Israeli housing and roadblocks in the West Bank. Palestinian claims that Israel is deliberately expanding Jewish settlements on land the Palestinians claim for a state have dampened the high hopes for a peace deal before President Bush leaves office next year. Asked about settlements, Rice said she "continues to raise with the Israelis the importance of creating an atmosphere that is conducive to negotiations."

#### **President Morales rejects Bolivian autonomy vote**

SANTA CRUZ, Bolivia (AP)—Bolivia's largest and richest state voted amid scattered violence Sunday to seek greater autonomy from the government of leftist President Evo Morales, who dismissed the referendum as a failure. The eastern lowland state of Santa Cruz, center of Bolivia's conservative opposition, had called the vote in hopes of separating the state's freewheeling capitalism and mixed-blood heritage from Morales' push for a communal state ruled by Indian values. In the face of local exit polls showing 85 percent of voters favoring the measure, Morales claimed that as many as half the ballots were invalid, quoting media reports.

# Austrian wife 'clueless' of daughter's captivity

AMSTETTEN, Austria (AP) The wife of an Austrian man accused of holding their daughter captive for 24 years fought to keep the troubled family together but never knew their child was in a soundproofed cellar beneath the apartment, the wife's sister said.

In an exclusive television interview with The Associated Press, a woman who identified herself as Josef Fritzl's sister-in-law provided intimate details of the oppression inside the Fritzl home, describing him as a "tyrant."

The woman, who has pictures of herself with the family, asked only to be identified as Christine R. to avoid public attention and throngs of journalists seeking interviews.

Christine R. painted the most complete picture to date of her sister Rosemarie and her belief that daughter Elisabeth ran away from home as a 17-year-old to join a cult. That was about six months before police say she was locked into the windowless cellar.

"We spoke about it often Christine R. said.

when we met," the woman said of her 68-year-old sister. "And I would say, 'Rosemarie, where can Elisabeth be?' I even told her myself, she is definitely in a cult where you can only have a certain amount of children, or they don't want sick children."

The sister, 12 years Rosemarie's junior, recalled searching for Elisabeth in train stations and where homeless people hang out. "We really did detective work all around as to where the cult could be,"

But why was the cult story so easily accepted? Such questions have puzzled Austrians, who have grappled with whether Rosemarie might have had knowledge of the crime.

Police say they have no evidence that Rosemarie was complicit in her husband's alleged atrocities. They say the 73-year-old electrician confessed to the imprisonment, fathering his daughter's seven children and incinerating the body of one of the children who died in infancy.

## Motorcade carrying Iraq's first lady is bombed

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's first lady escaped unharmed Sunday from a bomb attack in downtown Baghdad that struck her motorcade, injuring four body guards.

President Jalal Talabani's wife, Hiro Ibrahim Ahmed, was headed to the city's central National Theater to attend a cultural festival when her motorcade was hit in the Karrada district, according to the president's office. It was unclear whether she was the target or the attack was a random bombing.

In fighting Sunday, U.S. troops killed 18 Shiite extremists in unrelenting street battles in the capital's Shiite militia strongholds of Sadr City, Shula and New Baghdad.

Iraqi health officials said at least 10 people - including two children - were killed in 24 hours of fighting in Sadr City, a slum of 2.5 million people and a stronghold for the Shiite

future for Iraq's Green Zone **BAGHDAD** (AP)—Forget the rocket attacks, concrete blast walls and lack of a sewer system. Now try to imagine luxury hotels, a shopping center and even condos in the heart

**US-backed plan sees a shiny** 

That's all part of a five-year development "dream list" - or what some dub an improbable fantasy - to transform the U.S.-protected Green Zone from a walled fortress into a centerpiece for Baghdad's future.

But the \$5 billion plan has the backing of the Pentagon and apparently the interest of some deep pockets in the world of international hotels and development, the lead military liaison for the project told The Associated Press.

For Washington, the driving motivation is

to create a "zone of influence" around the new \$700 million U.S. Embassy to serve as a kind of high-end buffer for the compound, whose total price tag will reach about \$1 billion after all the workers and offices are relocated over the next year.

"When you have \$1 billion hanging out there and 1,000 employees lying around, you kind of want to know who your neighbors are. You want to influence what happens in your neighborhood over time," said Navy Capt. Thomas Karnowski, who led the team that created the development plan.

Karnowski said a deal already has been completed for Marriott International Inc. to build a hotel in the Green Zone. He also said a possible \$1 billion investment could come from MBI International, a conglomerate that focuses on hotels and resorts and is led by Saudi Sheikh Mohamed Bin Issa Al Jaber.

Mahdi Army militia of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who is believed to be living in Iran. It was unclear whether any Shiite extremists were included in the figure because health authorities

did not provide a breakdown.

Outside the city, U.S. troops on Sunday killed nine al-Qaida insurgents, including three who were wearing suicide vests, in a clash near Lake Thar Thar in the

predominantly Sunni Salahuddin province northwest of Baghdad, the military said. Two other al-Qaida insurgents were killed in Samarra north of Baghdad on Saturday, it said.

# Overdrive

# Waxing creative with car products

By RALPH VARTABEDIAN (C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Under all the glitz and glamour that outsiders normally associate with Southern California, there's an economy where people still get a little dirt under their nails, and a big part of it involves motor vehicles.

Making the cars seems almost boring when you look at the really creative products manufactured around the region for use with cars. And unlike in Detroit or the auto manufacturing centers in rural Dixie, the Southern Califorthe company doesn't seem to have much of a sales network. I can't vouch for its quality, but the idea alone seems to merit attention. It has to be a lot less expensive than moving to a new home or changing your driveway, if the problem is truly a serious one.

The device is assembled in San Diego with mostly U.S.made components. It is powered by four low-voltage electric motors that spin the car around in 23 seconds. It operates by a remote control. In the past, these kinds

The device is fairly new, and who don't have all day or even more than five minutes to detail their car.

> The product originally came out of an aerosol can and you can still buy it that way, although the company also offers a trigger pump bottle now. The original packaging featured a funky picture of founder and President Adam Huber waxing his own recreational vehicle. Huber is semiretired, but the family runs the business in Orange County and is still manufacturing the product in a small plant with about 10 employees.

ny's marketing chief, said the product has a loyal following among motorcycle and recreational vehicle owners. He does little advertising compared to better-known brands.

'What's your time worth?" Newman asks. "This is a way to protect your car in very little time and using very little product."

It is sold at recreational vehicle stores, some motorcycle shops, some Wal-Marts and through the company's Web site at www.protectall.com.

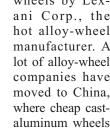
### LEXANI **AND ASANTI WHEELS**

At the other end of the car product spectrum are wheels by Lexani Corp., the hot alloy-wheel manufacturer. A lot of alloy-wheel companies have moved to China, where cheap castaluminum wheels are churned out.

The wheels made by Lexani, under the Lexani and Asanti brand names, are forged and assembled at the

plant in Corona, in the south San Gabriel Valley east of Los Angeles. Forged wheels -- formed by presses instead of casting that pours molten metal into molds -- are strong and can handle road hazards better than cast wheels, ac-

The company makes top-of-



cording to many experts.

the-line products, sold through distributors, for most of the luxury vehicles on the road. You can take a look at its products at www.lexani.com and www. asantiwheels.com.



This turntable spins your vehicle around 180 degrees on a 13-foot, 4-inch stainless steel disk.

nia auto industry is full of creative people and small factories where ambitions don't require billiondollar investments.

The products are as varied as \$2-million alloy-wheel sets and \$10 cans of a car wax that you probably have never heard of. And then there's the \$10,000 turntable for your garage or driveway, just the thing to help you avoid having to back out.

Here are just three products that I really like, even if I can't afford them all:

### **CARTURNER**

This turntable spins your vehicle around 180 degrees on a 13-foot, 4-inch stainless steel disk.

Why spend \$10,000 on this turntable? Safety and convenience. A lot of people live on busy streets, where backing out is a nerve-wracking problem that can take forever.

With the turntable, you always drive straight out, meaning you don't have to repeatedly crane your neck left and right until you find an open gap to back into. It also is safer for pedestrians, particularly when you consider more than 100 kids are run over in back-up accidents every year.

"This product is going to save lives," said Bill Schwenker, the San Diego entrepreneur who developed it.

of turntables cost tens of thousands of dollars and required a major construction job.

But Schwenker figured out a way to keep the entire assembly remarkably thin -- just 3 inches high -- meaning it could simply be placed over an existing concrete pad. Information about the device can be obtained at www. carturner.com or by calling (858) 481-3660.

### **PROTECT ALL**

This is a cleaner and wax all in one that seems made for real people

surfactant that helps suspend dirt and a UV blocker. I have used this product for more than a decade. Most of the time, I don't even wash the car first. I just spray some on

It contains carnauba wax, a

the hood, trunk and top and polish it off with an old towel. Water beads up on my car, just the same as when I use a more time-consuming wax.

Because it's clear, it won't dry to a haze if you miss a spot. And you can use it on every surface of the car, even the glass.



"Celebrities and artists request wheels from us first," says Aaron DeWitt, the company's marketing chief.

The company makes most of its wheels to order, offering hundreds of designs and finishes.

The top of the line is a \$2-mil-

lion set, studded with diamonds. Not in your price range? You can get a cubic zirconia set for just \$250,000.

The company calls it the "ultimate in blinged-out wheels."

E-mail Vartabedian at ralph. vartabedian@latimes.com.



The wheels made by Lexani, under the Lexani and Asanti brand names, are forged and assembled at the plant in Corona, in the south San Gabriel Valley east of Los Angeles.

### **CRUISIN**

### 1958 Ford Ranchero

By GREG ZYLA
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: Greg, what is the estimated value of my 1958 Ford Ranchero with a V-8 engine, automatic transmission and classic registration. The Ranchero needs some restoration, but considering its age, the condition is good.—Mrs. Ralph W., Ashland, Pa.

A: Mrs. W., your rare '58 Ranchero lists for \$9,000 in fair condition, \$17,700 good and \$25,900 restored, based on NADA values. These prices are based on the 292 cubicinch, 205 horsepower V-8, but if your Ranchero is powered by a 240 horsepower 312, add 10 percent; a 265 horsepower 332, add 15 percent; or better yet, a 300 horsepower 352, add 20 percent.

Remember that many times, listed retail prices are not what collector cars actually sell for, as the market fluctuates, similar to the stock market. Still, you've got a great vehicle in your possession, especially when you consider that Ford beat General Motors to the table, introducing the Ranchero in 1957, while the El Camino didn't arrive until 1959 at Chevy dealer showrooms.

Q: Greg, you've mentioned The Franklin Mint several times in your column. Can you give me the address or phone number of the Franklin Mint? I am looking for one of its catalogs. I enjoy your columns on the older cars very much.—Louis M., Monroe Township, N.J.

A: Louis, founded in 1964, The Franklin Mint is known worldwide for its innovative design and meticulous attention to detail in creating some of the highest-quality automotive collectible products available. I've been a collector of its models for many years.

You can order a catalog by calling 1-800-TheMint (1-800-843-6468), or go online at www.FranklinMint. com. In addition to its Internet and mail-order business, The Franklin Mint also operates a retail store in Las Vegas.

Write to Greg Zyla in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send an e-mail to gzyla@ptd.net.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008 19

# Life & Style

# A first for Saudis: Mozart performed for both genders

(AP)—It's probably as revolutionary and groundbreaking as Mozart gets these days. A German-based quartet staged Saudi Arabia's first-ever performance of European classical music in a public venue before a mixed gender audience.

The concert, held at a government-run cultural center, broke many taboos in a country where public music is banned and the sexes are segregated even in lines at fast food outlets.

The Friday night performance could be yet another indication that this strict Muslim kingdom is looking to open up to the rest of the world.

A few weeks ago, King Abdullah made an unprecedented call for interfaith dialogue with Christians and Jews - the first such proposal from a nation that forbids non-Muslim religious services and symbols.

"The concert is a sign that things are changing rapidly here," said German Ambassador Juergen Krieghoff, whose embassy sponsored the concert as part of the first-ever German Cultural Weeks in Saudi Arabia.

"Evidently the government has decided that a minimum of openness in our new world economy and in our information-based world is necessary for us and also for good understanding among cultures," he added.

Public concerts are practically unheard of in the kingdom. Foreign embassies and consulates

regularly bring musical groups, but they perform on embassy grounds or in expatriates' residential compounds, and the shows are not open to the public.

In the past couple of months, however, there has been a quiet, yet marked increase in cultural activities in Saudi Arabia. Lectures and a couple of segregated folk music performances were held on the sidelines of Riyadh's book fair. And Jiddah's annual Economic Forum opened with a surprise this February—a performance of Arab and Western music.

"For half an hour, we did not quite know whether we had stumbled into an unknown Jiddah nightclub or whether it was some amazing mistake that would suddenly stop," wrote Michel Cousins in the Englishlanguage daily Arab News, describing the 30-minute show.

Friday's concert of works by works by Mozart, Brahms and Paul Juon was the first classical performance held in public in Saudi Arabia, said German press attache Georg Klussmann. It was advertised on the embassy's Web site with free tickets that could be downloaded and printed.

The excitement in the 500seat hall was palpable as the largely expatriate audience walked in.

"We have not done a concert like this before," German diplomat Tobias Krause told the audience at the start of performance by the Artis Piano Quartet. Those gathered applauded enthusiastically after each piece and were treated to an encore.

Sebastian Bischoff, the German cultural attache, said the mission had received permission for the event from the Ministry of Information and Culture, which runs the King Fahd Cultural Center where the concert took place.

Japanese pianist Hiroko Atsumi, the quartet's only woman, said there was some debate before the concert about whether she should perform in an abaya, the enveloping black cloak all women must wear in public. She ended up settling on a long green top and black trousers.

Among the first to arrive was Faiza al-Khayyal, a retired Saudi educator, with her 15-yearold daughter.

"I came here for her sake. She loves classical music," said al-Khayyal. "There are cultural activities at embassies, but we don't get invited to them."

Al-Khayyal said she had inquired about seating arrangements and was told the audience would be mixed.

Did she mind bringing her daughter to a mixed gathering?

"It's OK with me," she said, and then added with a smile: "I'm with her."

Faleh al-Ajami, a university Arabic language professor, brought his wife and two sons to the concert—a rare opportunity for the whole family to do something fun together.

"It's a good step to introduce

Saudis to classical music," al-Ajami, 50, said during the intermission.

"I was amazed at the sounds coming from the musical instruments," said his son Ziad

al-Ajami, 11, a fan of hard a city with no movie theaters rock. "I've never been to a live concert before."

For the expatriates, the evening was an opportunity to have a normal evening out in Riyadh,

and where women are not allowed in outdoor cafes.

One foreign couple held hands, while another husband put his arm around his wife's shoulders—rare public displays of affection in the kingdom. The mutuwwa, the dreaded religious police tasked with enforcing public morality, were nowhere to be seen for a change.

"I'm glad for an opportunity like this," said Mary Ann Jumawan, a 40-year-old administrator at the South Korean Embassy. "It's the first time in nine years here as a married couple that my husband and I go to a location like this."

But not everyone was impressed.

Abdullah al-Sabhan, brother and three friends received invitations from a German business associate, but after half an hour, they snuck out.

"I'm bored," said al-Sabhan, 26, an engineer who prefers Egyptian pop music and had never heard of Mozart. "Let me leave before the second piece begins."

His brother, Saud, dismissed the notion that gatherings involving men and women together might one day become the norm.

"Saudi society wouldn't accept it. And girls aren't used to such mixed gatherings," he said, adding that if he had a sister, she certainly would not have been allowed to attend.



A mixed gender audience attends a performance of the German-based Artis Piano Quartet at a government-run cultural center in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Friday, May 2, 2008.

### On Japan's secretive death row, inmate becomes cause celebre

TOKYO (AP)—Iwao Hakamada, Japan's longest serving death row inmate, has insisted for 40 years that he is innocent of the four murders he was convicted of. The evidence was suspect, he says, and his confession was coerced.

Now the judge who wrote the ex-boxer's death sentence

"My feelings about Mr. Hakamada remain the same—I believe he is innocent," said Norimichi Kumamoto, who now reveals that he argued for acquittal but was outvoted by two other judges in their secret deliberations before handing down their ruling in 1968. As the junior judge, he was tasked with writing the death sentence order.

The case—and Kumamoto's stunning admission last yearhas fixed an unprecedented spotlight on Japan's secretive criminal justice system, causing a stir in legal circles and raising questions about the death penalty in a country where it's rarely questioned.

Among those clamoring for a retrial are Amnesty International, Japanese boxers and Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, the American boxer imprisoned nearly 20 years for three murders before the convictions were overturned.

The case also has illuminated all the elements that critics say make Japanese law enforcement inhumane: heavy-handed interrogations without lawyers present, over-reliance on confessions, an arbitrary capital punishment system that can keep inmates on death row for decades and then hang them with no advance notice.

Discussion of the case coincides with a rapid increase in the number of death sentences. Of 165 people on death row, seven have been executed so far this year, compared with just one in 2005.

Hakamada's case began with a fire on June 30, 1966, at the home of an executive of a soybean paste company where he worked.

Hakamada said he helped douse the flames, whereupon the charred remains of the bodies of the executive, his wife



Hideko Hakamada, sister of death row inmate Iwao Hakamada, seen at left on the wall, looks at their family photos in the lobby area at a Tokyo gym during a special charity event hosted by the Japan Pro Boxing Association to free Hakamada, who was once a featherweight contender himself, at a Tokyo gym, Thursday, Jan. 24, 2008.

and two children were discovered—all stabbed to death.

Two months later, Hakamada, then 30, was arrested and charged based on a confession and a pair of his pajamas that contained tiny amounts of blood and gasoline. He recanted the confession and pleaded not guilty at his trial. Prosecutors discarded the pajamas and presented a separate set of bloodsoaked clothes they said he wore for the killings.

Hakamada, his supporters and now the dissenting judge argue the case was full of holes.

Hakamada says police kicked and clubbed him to get a confession. His lawyers say he was interrogated for 264 hours over 23 days, the longest session lasting

16 hours and 20 minutes. They say the exhausted Hakamada was denied water or bathroom visits during the interrogation.

"Investigators spent some ten hours on average for about 20 days to get his confession. They wouldn't have been doing something so stupid if they had had firm evidence," Kumamoto, the judge, told The Associated Press.

But an appeal to the Tokyo High Court and the Supreme Court failed to overturn the conviction.

The physical evidence also raises questions. When he tried on the pants that replaced the pajamas at his appeal, they didn't fit him.

The murder weapon, a fruit knife with a 4.8-inch blade, should have been more damaged if it had been used to inflict more than 40 stab wounds on the victims, the skeptics argue.

"This is a typical case of finding an innocent man guilty of a false charge because the court trusts confessions made during investigations," said Hideyo Ogawa, one of Hakamada's lawyers.

Under the Japanese system, judges don't disclose details of their consultations, and Kumamoto, now 70 and in retirement, has faced harsh criticism in legal circles for breaking the silence.

"I wanted someone in the Supreme Court to hear me just once at the end of my life," Kumamoto said. "I'm glad I spoke up. I wish I had said it earlier, and maybe something might have changed."

Hakamada's supporters hope the judge's reversal will turn the tide, though not immediately; the Supreme Court has turned down a request for retrial, though his lawyers have resubmitted the petition for further consideration.

The Japan Pro Boxing Association hosted a charity event for Hakamada at a Tokyo gym in January, drawing nearly 1,300 people, according to organizers. Carter spoke in a videotaped message, saying, "It's time to free Mr. Hakamada to show the people that you are a civilized society and you can admit when a mistake has been made."

# 'Iron Man' turns in \$100M-plus debut

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Iron Man" was pure gold at the box

The Marvel Comics adaptation, starring Robert Downey Jr. as the guy in the metal suit, hauled in \$100.7 million during its opening weekend and \$104.2 million since debuting Thursday night, the second-best premiere ever for a nonsequel, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The film also scored overseas with \$96.7 million in 57 countries where it began opening Wednesday, putting its worldwide total at \$201 million.

The movie, distributed by Paramount, is the first release by Marvel Studios, which has begun financing its own productions after such studio-backed hits as the "Spider-Man," "X-Men" and "Fantastic Four" flicks.

"We could not have hoped for a better way for Marvel Studios to blast off," said David Maisel, chairman of the unit, a division of Marvel Entertainment, which stands to pull in a greater share of box office receipts and merchandising money by financing movies itself.

Debuting in second place with \$15.5 million was Sony's romantic comedy "Made of Honor,"



starring "Grey's Anatomy" heartthrob Patrick Dempsey as a man who tries to woo his best pal after she asks him to be "maid of honor" at her wedding.

"Iron Man," which won rave reviews from many critics, features Downey as billionaire arms designer Tony Stark, a boozy womanizer who builds a high-tech suit and becomes a superhero, mending his ways after he's taken captive and sees firsthand the devastation his weapons cause.

The film is directed by Jon Favreau, and also stars Gwyneth Paltrow, Jeff Bridges and Terrence Howard.

Despite the huge "Iron Man" opening, Hollywood's overall business was down compared to the same weekend last year, when "Spider-Man 3" had a record debut of \$151.1 million. The top 12 movies took in \$154.1 million, off 15 percent from a year ago.

"Nonetheless, 'Iron Man' did better than expected," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box office tracker Media By Numbers. "This is certainly the shot in the arm the marketplace has

Movie attendance this year is running 6 percent behind that of 2007, so the arrival of "Iron Man" may jump start the box office as the busy summer season begins.

"If that first May movie is a big hit, it tends to lead to a big summer," said Rob Moore, Paramount vice chairman. "There hadn't been a big event movie yet this year. So you have the first event movie of summer, and people go 'And I hear it's really good. All right, I'm in."

"Iron Man" was the 10th biggest

\$6.1 million.

1. "Iron Man," \$100.7 million.

3. "Baby Mama," \$10.3 million.

Guantanamo Bay," \$6 million.

7. "Nim's Island," \$2.8 million. 8. "Prom Night," \$2.5 million.

10. "88 Minutes," \$1.6 million.

9. "21," \$2.1 million.

2. "Made of Honor," \$15.5 million.

4. "Forgetting Sarah Marshall,"

5. "Harold & Kumar Escape From

6. "The Forbidden Kingdom," \$4.2

opening of all time and the fourth biggest for a superhero movie. Among nonsequels, came behind the only "Spifirst der-Man," which premiered

with \$114.8 million.

"If we have to, we're happy to come in second to another Marvel property," Maisel said. "It emphasizes how lucky we are to have such a powerful brand that's not loved by just comic book fans but also general movie fans."

The next Marvel production arrives in June with "The Incredible Hulk," distributed by Universal and starring Edward

In limited release, David Mamet's martial-arts drama "Redbelt" opened solidly with \$68,646 in six theaters. Released by Sony Pictures Classics, "Redbelt" stars Chiwetel Ejiofor as an honorable instructor caught

> up in corruption in the world of mixed martialarts competitions.

> > Paramount Vantage's "Son of Rambow," comic tale of two British

boys making their own "Rambo" movie, also opened well with \$52,549 in five theaters.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Media By Numbers LLC. Final figures will be released Monday.

### DNA tests reveal mystery surrounding playwright Schiller

**BERLIN** (AP)—Who is buried in Friedrich Schiller's tomb? Several people, apparently, but none of them the famous poet and playwright, according to new research.

After two years of painstaking DNA research, experts have determined that none of the remains billed as those of Schiller belong to the German writer, who died in Weimar in 1805, Germany's MDR television reported. The study, dubbed the Friedrich-Schiller Code, was undertaken by the television station, the Foundation of Weimar Classics and an international team of scientists.

"Two years ago I was certain that we would prove that it was him; now we have proved the opposite," said foundation president Hellmut Seemann, whose organization oversees the Schiller archives and exhibitions.

He spoke on an MDR documentary about the study that was broadcast Saturday night, before of the official release of the results on Monday.

"But the most important thing is, and I said it at the time: We should have no fear of wanting to know what we can about the Schiller remains," he added. "And I am now happy that it is a clear result."

The DNA results add another chapter to a mystery that dates back to 1826, just 21 years after Schiller died, when it was decided that he needed a new resting place.

Schiller's remains had been interred in a mausoleum in Weimar's Jacobs cemetery that the state kept for distinguished citizens. But the remains were mixed with others, and when a total of 23 skulls were found, the city's mayor, Carl Leberecht Schwabe—a Schiller fan—declared that the biggest must have been that of the philosophic writer.

A skeleton believed to match the skull was then put together with it, and both were buried in 1827 in the city's Fuerstengruft cemetery. Germany's most revered writer, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe-who was Schiller's friend—was buried in a crypt alongside him in 1832 and today the site is visited by some 60,000 people per year.

But in 1911, Schiller researcher August von Froriep unearthed another skull that he said was that of the writer, and later claims emerged about still another skull.

According to the DNA results, however, none of the skulls were matches, MDR reported. The researchers used comparison samples taken from the remains of two of Schiller's sisters and two of his sons.

The results showed that the original Schiller skull belonged to an unidentified person, and that the "matching" skeleton was actually the bones of several other unidentified people, MDR reported.

The other two skulls also did not match, raising a new question: Where's Schiller?

Seemann said he thinks that the remains must still be in the original Jacobs cemetery—but added that his organization would not be taking part in any new search for them.

This April 30, 2005 file photo shows a copy of the Friedrich Schiller bust created by German sculptor Johann Friedrich von Dannecker at the end of the 18th century in the museum "Schillers Gartenhaus", or Schiller's garden house, in Jena, eastern Ger-





## New Orleans sings praise as Neville Brothers finally reunite

**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—The Nev- lighted to have them back. ille Brothers, who traditionally help close out the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, returned to the big stage Sunday for the first time since Hurricane Katrina flooded and wrecked their homes, along with 80 percent of the city.

The brothers—Aaron, Art, Cyril and Charles—performed on the festival's biggest stage in front of an immense crowd that appeared de-

Aaron Neville of the Neville Brothers performs with the Wild Magnolia Tchoupatoulis Mardi Gras Indians during the 2008 New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival at the New Orleans Fairgrounds Racetrack in New Orleans, Sunday, May 4, 2008.

"This is a family reunion," festival producer Quint Davis said in introducing them. "This is the family of New Orleans coming together with the first family of our music."

The delayed return of the group to the festival, bemoaned the past two years by fans, was celebrated as another step toward putting the devastation of the 2005 storm behind the city.

"I'm just happy they're back; that's more than I can say," said Martin Davis, a former New Orleans resident now living in Houston. "I'm back for Jazz Fest, but I don't know when or if I'll come back to stay. There are a lot of hard memories for a lot of us now when

it comes to our hometown."

There were also a lot of good ones that the Nevilles wasted no time trotting out. They opened with songs about Mardi Gras and The Wild Tchoupitoulas, a Mardi Gras group that danced onstage with them.

After Aaron Neville sang his hit "Tell It Like It Is," he told the crowd: "I love you." He later sang "Amazing Grace" and said, "Joel y'all," a reference to his wife, Joel Roux-Neville, who died last year.

The show went 30 minutes long before the Nevilles wrapped up with "Big Chief" to extended cheers.

"It was absolutely worth the wait for them," said Yvette Duperon, 53, a Philadelphia school principal. "I'm going home and play their music for the next month."

After Katrina, the Nevilles, like most of the city's residents, were scattered - Aaron in New York, Charles in Boston, Cyril in Austin, Texas.

Aaron is the latest Neville brother to return to the area. He's buying a house in Covington, La., about 40 miles from New Orleans. Art Neville returned to New Orleans soon after the storm but still isn't back in

Aaron Neville had worried that the dirt, dust and mold from the city's debris would aggravate his asthma. In addition, his wife of 49 years died, and her funeral in January 2007 became a sad and brief homecoming.

# NJ Hall of Fame inducts 15

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—Fifteen prominent New Jerseyans were inducted into the state's new Hall of Fame on Sunday night—even though the actual hall doesn't exist yet.

Bruce Springsteen, Yogi Berra, Toni Morrison and Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf were among the many honorees on hand for the ceremony at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.

The hall is one of many endeavors aimed at improving the reputation of the oft-maligned Garden State, which Springsteen referred to in his acceptance speech.

"Rise up, my fellow New Jerseyans. We are all members of a confused but noble race," the rocker said. "Even with this wonderful Hall of Fame, we know there's another bad Jersey joke just around the corner."

Others attending the red-carpet event included Gov. Jon S. Corzine, Newark Mayor Cory



Booker and Tina Sinatra, whose father—the late crooner Frank Sinatra - was among the inductees.

Two inductees, actress Meryl Streep and former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley, were unable to attend. They have asked that the presentation of their awards be held until they can receive them in person.

The Hall of Fame exists only as a virtual entity now, but officials are raising money to build a permanent museum. The first class was chosen through an online vote after 25 finalists were announced in 2006.

All inductees must have lived in the state for at least five years, though organizers made an exception to that rule for Underground Railroad pioneer Harriet Tubman.

This is a Nov. 1, 2007 file photo of Meryl Streep as she arrives at the premiere of "Lions for Lambs" in Los Angeles.

### Humor is disabled woman's defense against rude remarks

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: May I offer a response to the letter from "Petite's Mom in Salem, Va." (Feb. 25), whose daughter "Claire" is the target of rude comments due to her size?

I was born disabled and walk with a limp. All my life, people have demanded the most outrageous information, including the standard, "What's wrong with you?"

or, "Do you take medicine for that?" And my favorite, "But ... can you have sex?"

I have found the best defense against rudeness is a sense of humor and compassion. Many people say things without intending to insult, and sometimes they speak before they have a chance to think.

When someone asks me a rude question, I'm likely to respond with one of your gems: "Why do you ask?"

-LINDA IN MATHEWS, VA.

### Country star Gretchen Wilson, at 34, finishes high school



NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)— Country music singer Gretchen Wilson has a mantel full of awards in her Lebanon home.

Her first radio single, "Redneck Woman," spent five weeks at No. 1 on Billboard's Hot Country Songs chart and it earned her a 2005 Grammy. Her debut album sold 4.5 million

In this Oct. 25, 2007 file photo, Singer Gretchen Wllson performs during Country Music Television's "CMT Giants" honoring Hank Williams, Jr. in Los Angeles.

Despite all her successes, the 34-year-old songwriter was one of 20 percent of Tennesseans without a high school diploma. But no longer.

Wilson, who dropped out in ninth grade, passed her General Educational Development exam in April and will don a cap and gown during a May 15 graduation ceremony.

Wilson told The Tennessean that her 7-year-old daughter was the big reason to finally finish, saying, "I certainly don't want her to think you can be this successful without an education."

### Miley Cyrus performs at Disney but doesn't address mag photo

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) -- Miley Cyrus returned to the stage for a concert in Orlando, Fla., but did not say anything about the recent controversy over her Vanity Fair portrait.

The 15-year-old star of Hannah Montana performed several songs at the Saturday concert that will be included in the Disney Channel Games series on the Disney Channel.

Cyrus didn't attend Friday's red-carpet party for the games at Disney's Epcot Center, where she would have faced questions

Cyrus has said she was embarrassed by the photo, which shows her wrapped in a sheet

with her back exposed.

She spotted a sign in the crowd Saturday that said "Miley I'm praying for you," and she responded: "I can't be more appreciative of that."

Saturday's concert also featured performances by the Jonas Brothers and the Cheetah Girls.

In this image released by Disney, Miley Cyrus from the Disney Channel's "Hannah Montana" poses with Disney characters Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse at the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., on Thursday, May 1,



### Stones keyboardist Chuck Leavell offers grads advice

(AP)—Rolling Stones keyboardist Chuck Leavell entertained Central Michigan University graduates and joked about rock musicians during an appearance at commencement ceremonies.

Leavell also was presented with an honorary Doctor of Music degree during Saturday's

He told the crowd he learned

to his mother play. He said that she never had any formal training, but that he loved hearing her at the keys at their home in Alabama.

He also offered life lessons for graduating students, including the importance of integrity, desire and determination.

"The pursuit of excellence can take you to the Super Bowl or the Hollywood Bowl,

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich. to play the piano by listening if you're committed," Leavell tionist, has a model tree farm said. "If you keep these principles in life, no matter what you've chosen to do, you will be successful."

He also offered a groaner for the graduates.

"What's the difference between a musician and a municipal bond?" Leavell asked. "A municipal bond matures and makes money."

Leavell, a noted conserva-

near Macon, Ga., that raises Southern yellow pine for use in homes and paper products. He has been a keyboard player for artists such as the Allman Brothers Band, Eric Clapton and George Harrison.

The ceremony was one of three for the 3,649 May 2008 graduates. Ceremonies are divided according to which degrees the students are receiving.

DEAR LINDA: Thank you for the reminder that a softer retort can be as effective as one that's confrontational. Many readers "weighed" in with similar experiences and suggestions for Claire. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Petite's Mom" was resonant of many years of my life. I grew up in the '30s and '40s. I have never weighed more than 110 pounds and, at 5 feet 4 inches tall, have endured similar questions and comments my entire life. Example from a stranger: "You're the skinniest person I have ever seen!"

It used to make me feel inferior. How things have changed. Recently, as I was leaving a restaurant, I overheard a woman say, "I would kill to be that size!" How sweet it is.

—GLAD I LIVED TO SEE THE DAY, ORANGE, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: Years ago, I told a very small kindergartener, "You sure are small to be in kindergarten." She must have heard it many times before, because she replied, "My mommy says it's not how big you are; it's how much you KNOW." From the mouths of babes. It taught me a lesson, and I have never commented again about a person's size.

--MIMI IN MAUD, OKLA.

DEAR ABBY: I agree it's inappropriate to comment to people about their physical appearance. However, I think you missed the mark in your reply.

People who comment to Claire about her weight are rude, but an impudent response is also inappropriate because it reinforces rude behavior. She could consider saying, "I appreciate your concern for my health, but I have discussed my weight with my doctor, who assures me that I'm a healthy, petite person." This will allow her to give a direct response while showing she can handle herself with dignity.

She should treat others with respect even when it appears that the respect is not mutual, and demonstrate that good things come in small packages!

—DENISE IN LONG BEACH, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: I married a 5-foot-2, 103-pound woman 52 years ago. She's as healthy as a horse, although she has since put on a few pounds—she now weighs a whopping 105.

My wife has been in the hospital four times in her life. Three of those were for childbirth. She is two months shy of 80, and still has a figure most women would be proud of at 30. Call me prejudiced, but she is the perfect size for me.

---WILLIAM IN RIO HONDO, TEXAS

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

## **Pastimes**

### Calvin and Hobbes



SCIENTISTS CAN TELL HOW OLD SOMETHING IS JUST BY ANALYZING THE LAYERS OF DIRT IT'S IN.

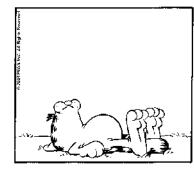






By Bill Waterson

### **Garfield®**







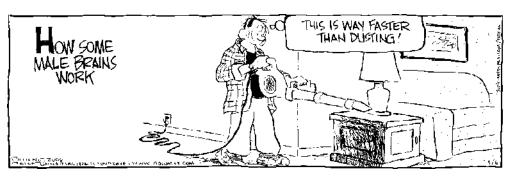
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### By Bryan Basset

### The Duplex



By Jim Davis



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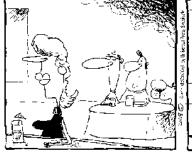
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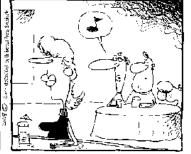
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STUMPED?

or answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch tone/retary phones. (18+ on y.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: George Clooney, 47; Roma Downey, 44; Tom Bergeron, 53; Bob Seger, 63

Happy Birthday: Look for every excuse to expand or elaborate on something that you enjoy. Working from your home base or using your home for entertaining or teaching will all benefit you. Don't limit yourself because you fear failure or think you don't have enough experience. You can do anything you put your mind to. Your numbers are 9, 14, 21, 23, 37, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't give in to bullying. Overreacting will give others the upper hand. Stay cool and refuse to let anyone get a rise out of you. Don't depend on anything or anyone and you will be that much

further ahead. OOO

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Everything is moving along the way it should, whether you realize it or not. Don't procrastinate or you will lose momentum. You have more opportunities than you realize so focus on the big picture. 🛇 😂

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your emotions will be hard to hide. Don't put yourself in a vulnerable position that could lead to divulging information you want kept secret. Money can be made and a chance to make a few alterations to your residence looks positive.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Avoid getting involved in someone else's problem or responsibilities. Listen but don't give advice. Protect your assets and be willing to

make whatever changes are required to keep the peace. 🛇 🔾 🔾

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do as much as you can for others and keep as busy as possible to avoid trouble. A personal problem is likely to crop up if you haven't had enough time to take care of home and family matters. Stick to the truth.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make home improvements. Watch your back at work or when dealing with people who can make a difference to your current position. Emotional games may stand in your way. Don't get angry—do your best and get even. 😂

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can talk your way in or out of anything and you will probably have to. Someone may try to load you up with more responsibilities than vou can handle. Check out an activity, group or course that interests you or even a destination you want to visit.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone you love will have a great impact on you and it may leave you in a precarious position. You will have to live with the decisions you make, so be careful how you move forward. If you can't decide, back away and regroup.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Talks will be instrumental in the outcome of a partnership. Change may appear to be necessary but, before you start the process, observe the way things unfold. You are likely to be surprised by the emotional issues brought to your attention. OOO

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You set the standard and make the arrangements if you want things to go according to your plans. Home improvements will turn out well and satisfy you and your loved ones. You will get your

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't trust anyone who is promising you are impossible. Ulterior motives are apparent family and neighbors. A when dealing with friends, family and neighbors. A little will go a long way so don't overspend.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may be asked to do more than usual. If you meet the demands, you will gain approval from someone who can help you get ahead. Someone from your past may come back into your life. OOOO

Birthday Baby: You are an opportunist and a visionary. You are passionate, progressive and have the potential to be a huge success. You will learn valuable lessons from your early experiences.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, **eugenialast.com** for confidential consultations

### Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

6			9	3	8			7
		4				3		
	5						1	
7				2				9
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	6						2	
		7				8		
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Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

### Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	2	3	9	1	8	7	6	5
7	1	6	4	2	5	8	3	9
5	9	8	7	3	6	4	2	1
9	5	4	8	7	3	2	1	6
8	6	7	1	5	2	9	4	3
2	3	1	6	4	9	5	7	8
3	8	9	2	6	4	1	5	7
1	4	5	3	9	7	6	8	2
6	7	2	5	8	1	3	9	4

5/06

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### WONDLERWORD

By DAVID

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even bacaward, Find librariant CRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY, DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The believes holders spell

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TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008 23

# CLASSIFIED ADS

### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water \$210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

Dan Dan Village. Panoramic view of Lau Lau Bay, large comfortable home with rooftop patios on 2nd and 3rd floor, unfurnished, walled and gated, 5 bedroom/3 bath, safe, secure, private. Call 322-0268. View by appointment.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS

USSP CLUB (Mon/Tue/Wed Nights) Happy hour prices all night-5pm-2am. Live music-Tue/ Wed nights-\$2.50/beer, Mon night-\$2.25/beer WHATZIT Solution: A little light relief

#### **FOR SALE**

1-bedroom/build-in 20ft container wall to wall

carpet w/ 12BTU split-type aircon. \$3,500 or best offer/call Rose-233-1984,8am-6pm

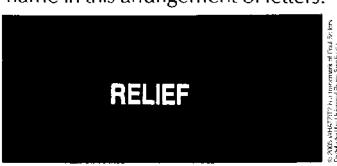
Retail store equipments & inventories. More than enough to open new business. All for \$5,500/or best offer-233-1984

Business for Sale: Profitable Beauty Shop behind Duty Free in Garapan. \$6,500 only. Unique opportunity. Owner leaving. Tel. 789-1514, 233-4247, 287-5004

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### **CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES**

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

#### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$25
• 5-Liner	\$35
<ul> <li>3-Liner with picture</li> </ul>	\$45
5-Liner with picture	\$55

#### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues in each of two successive weeks.

1st position\$13.002nd position\$5.00Succeeding positions\$2.00

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements on Saipan that include corresponding benefits and positions that are all under the same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for \$.25 per copy.

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

### **Job Vacancy Announcements**

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:

 Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

### CANCELLATION

### **Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### **Job Vacancy Announcements**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### **REFUNDS**

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### **CHECK YOUR ADS**

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### **ADVERTISING POLICY**

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### The Saipan Tribune now offers

# Classified Ads Super Saver Package

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A complete 7-day run for car sales, employment, garage sales, apartment rentals, announcements, lost and found, business services, and more...

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3-LINER AD W/ PHOTO \$45

\$35

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# Kim is youngest PGA Tour winner in 6 years



CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Knee surgery prevented Tiger Woods from attempting to defend his Wachovia Championship title. Anthony Kim didn't disappoint fans at Quail Hollow Club looking for Tiger-like brilliance.

In a near flawless performance Sunday, the 22-year-old Kim became the youngest winner on the PGA Tour in six years. Following monster drives with flagstick-hitting approach shots and steady putting, Kim shot a 3-under 69 to cruise to five-shot win over Ben Curtis.

The former NCAA freshman of the year at Oklahoma won't turn 23 until next month. But he dominated a star-studded field by finishing with a 16-under 272 total, three shots better than the previous tournament record held by Woods.

"I'm a little bit numb right now, but that walk up 18 was the best feeling of my entire life," Kim said. "I'll never forget that feeling. I had chills going up and down my spine. I want to recreate that as many times as possible now, so I'm really going to work hard."

Kim earned \$1,134,000 and became the youngest winner since Sergio Garcia won his third PGA Tour title in the 2002 Mercedes Championship.

Kim brought memories of Garcia, but for a different reason, when he strolled to the first tee Sunday with a four-shot lead and no PGA Tour wins. Garcia blew a six-shot lead at Quail Hollow in 2005 and lost in a playoff to Vijay Singh.

"I was actually pretty comfortable. I thought I'd have a couple more butterflies in my stomach at the first tee," Kim said. "I felt pretty calm and confident about my game."

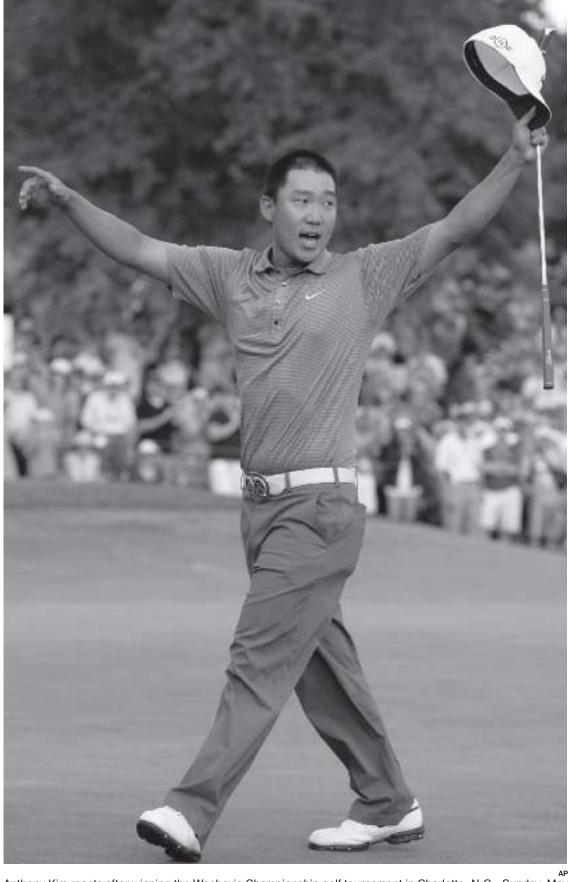
It showed. Kim birdied the first and fifth holes to pull away from playing partner Heath Slocum, who shot a 73 and finished at 8 under.

"Anthony played great," Slocum said. "From the get-go he put his foot on the gas and never let off. That was very, very impressive."

Kim made 25- and 20-foot putts for birdies on the seventh and eighth holes to reach 17 under for a seven-shot lead as his giant belt buckle reading "AK" sparkled in the bright sunshine.

Kim's first miscue was on the par-4 ninth, when his drive landed in a fairway bunker, forcing him to lay up. He then hit the flagstick with his third shot and saved par.

Kim's bogey on No. 13 was erased with birdies on the next two holes. He finished bogey-bogey-par, pumping his fist as his last putt dropped, as he lapped a field that included 18 of the world's top 25 players.



Anthony Kim reacts after winning the Wachovia Championship golf tournament in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, May

"I knew my life was changing on the 18th green when I was lining that putt up," Kim said. "It was just so special. I'll never forget that feeling. All these emotions were starting to run through and I realized what I had done and all the hard work had paid off."

Curtis' 65 was the best round of the day and the best final round in the tournament's six years. The 36-hole leader, Jason Bohn, shot a 71 to finish third at 10 under.

But Bohn felt helpless when he finally checked the leaderboard at No. 17.

"I looked over and said, 'He's 18-under par? Holy cow!"" Bohn said.

None of the big names lurking near the top of the leaderboard Sunday made a charge.

Jim Furyk (7 under) and Phil Mickelson (5 under) shot 72s. Singh was out of it before he hit two tee shots in the water on No. 17 and chipped in for triple bogey. His 74 left him at 4 under.

Robert Allenby's 66 put him at 9 under and alone in fourth place. But there was no match for Kim, who became the eighth 20something player to win this year.

"I kind of sensed that he was going for a bit of a trip," Allenby said of Kim. "I had a look on 17 just to see where he was. I knew he was going pretty good. I was playing for second."

After leaving Oklahoma following his junior year, Kim tied for second in his PGA Tour debut at the 2006 Texas Open. He earned his tour card that winter and was the youngest rookie in 2007 when he had four top-10s finishes.

But Kim didn't come close to winning and struggled with his temper and his decisionmaking. He decided he had to practice more and not take as many unnecessary gambles on the course.

"I think if I had won last year my practicing would have gone down even less-and there wasn't much to go down," Kim joked. "I might have been playing on the Hooters Tour. It might have been the best thing for me, just to get slapped in the face and realize that I can't win out here without practicing, giving it my all on every golf shot, every practice round."

After three missed cuts earlier in the year, Kim played in the final group at the Verizon Heritage two weeks ago, but never threatened for the win. Things changed at Quail Hollow, where Kim finished tied for seventh behind Woods last year.

Kim is the fifth first-time winner in 2008, joining Brian Gay, Greg Kraft, Andres Romero and Johnson Wagner.

"I was an immature kid last year," Kim said as he wore the winner's blue jacket. "I feel like I've grown up quite a bit and I think that helped me so much this week, so much this year and hopefully in the future."

# Boston finally beats Atlanta, moves on to second round



**BOSTON** (AP)—Kevin to its conclusion. Garnett took a behind-the-Boston a 36-point, third-quarter lead and then slashed his hand across his throat to signal what

the Atlanta Hawks already knew. "It's over," he said.

The game. The series. The surprising little scare Atlanta put into the NBA's best.

Garnett had 18 points and 11 rebounds. Pierce scored 22 points, and the Celtics turned back the pesky Hawks with a 99-65 victory Sunday in Game 7 of their playoff series, earning a second-round matchup with LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Round 2 begins Tuesday night, and the Boston fans are ready.

"We want Cleveland!" they yelled as the Celtics bench nursed the game

Rajon Rondo, who missed a potenback pass from Paul Pierce, tial game-tying 3-pointer in the Game slammed in the dunk to give 6 loss that forced the series back to Boston, had 10 points and six assists, taking his lumps in the game's pivotal play. Kendrick Perkins had 10 points and 10 rebounds before joining the rest of the starters on the bench in the formality of a fourth quarter, just as they did for much of the regular season.

Boston went 66-16 for the league's best record—29 games better than the young Hawks team that earned the last playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. Although the upstarts put up little fight on the road, they won all three games in Atlanta by pushing back against Boston's Big Three of Pierce, Garnett and Ray Allen.

The skirmishes of the first six games boiled over with 9:09 left in the third quarter, with Boston already leading 51-28, when Rondo got the ball on a breakaway in the third quarter and had only 3:05 left in the third. Marvin Williams to beat.

lay for a few minutes while Celtics coaches and teammates checked on him. The officials immediately signaled a Flagrant 2 foul and, after reviewing the play, threw Williams out of the game.

The crowd was energized, and the Celtics were angry. Rondo hit both free throws, the Celtics got the ball and Allen, who hadn't made a basket since the first quarter, drained a 3-pointer to make it a 28-point game.

Then it was showtime.

The Celtics brought out some fakes and behind-the-back passes straight out of the Harlem Globetrotters. Rondo found Garnett underneath for an emphatic dunk—and the menacing gesture that will surely earn Garnett a fine from the league office-with

A minute later, he got his payback, The Hawks forward put an arm across his knocking Zaza Pachulia to the floor on chest and took Rondo to the floor, where he a backcourt pick. Celtics coach Doc his first Most Valuable Player award Rivers, who earned his first playoff series coaching victory, took Garnett out of the game; he wasn't needed.

> With 10:44 left in the game, Pierce and Rondo joined him on the bench. Pierce was the only Celtics starter to play more than 30 minutes. Sub Leon Powe was the third-leading scorer, with 12 points and four rebounds in 20 minutes.

### Lakers 109, Jazz 98

In Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant, celebrating what is expected to be his first NBA MVP award, had 38 points, six rebounds and seven assists, and Los Angeles made it five straight playoff wins by beating Utah to begin the second round.

Game 2 will be played Wednesday

night before the best-of-seven series shifts to Utah for Games 3 and 4. Word leaked late Friday that Bryant had won and he expressed his joy on Saturday. The NBA has declined comment, but Bryant is expected to receive the MVP trophy from commissioner David Stern before Game 2.

Pau Gasol added 18 points, 10 rebounds and five assists, Lamar Odom had 16 points and nine rebounds before fouling out with 45 seconds to play, and Sasha Vujacic scored 15 for the Lakers.

Mehmet Okur had 21 points and a career playoff-high 19 rebounds for the Jazz, who lost despite outrebounding the Lakers 58-41. Carlos Boozer had 15 points, 14 rebounds and four assists before fouling out with 3:28 left, and Deron Williams added 14 points, nine assists and nine rebounds.

# **Jeter leads Yankees in 8-2 win over Mariners**



(AP)—Derek Jeter had four hits and the New York

Yankees got consecutive homers from Melky Cabrera and Robinson Cano during a six-run outburst, beating the slumping Seattle Mariners 8-2 Sunday to finish a lopsided three-game sweep.

Just called up from the minors, Darrell Rasner pitched six comfortable innings and the sweet-swinging Yankees roughed up an ineffective Carlos Silva (3-1). New York outscored the Mariners 19-4 in the series, immediately after getting swept three games at home by the Detroit Tigers.

Seattle has lost a season-worst five straight, managing only nine runs during that stretch, and nine of 11 overall.

#### Red Sox 7, Rays 3

In Boston, Kevin Youkilis had four RBIs and Jon Lester pitched six innings to lift Boston over Tampa Bay, spoiling the return of Rays ace Scott Kazmir.

After being swept for the first time in franchise history by Tampa Bay last weekend, the Red Sox returned the favor and outscored the Rays in the series 26-10. None of the Tampa Bay starters in the three-game series made it out of the fourth inning.

Lester (2-2) allowed a run and four hits with three walks.

### Twins 7, Tigers 6

In Minneapolis, Joe Mauer capped a Minnesota rally from a six-run, first-inning deficit, slapping a two-run single up the middle in the seventh to lift the Twins past the Tigers.

A two-out error in the inning by third baseman Carlos Guillen, who let a routine groundball hit by Nick Punto roll off his glove and through his legs, set up a four-run surge and ruined a strong start by Kenny Rogers.

Zach Miner (1-2) relieved and gave up an RBI single to Carlos Gomez and an RBI double to Brendan Harris. Then Bobby Seay came in and served up Mauer's go-ahead hit.

Matt Guerrier (2-1) earned the victory with two scoreless innings in relief. Joe Nathan picked up the save, his 11th in as many attempts, with a in the ninth for the Royals, who outscoreless ninth to give the

### **Angels 6, Orioles 5**

in Anaheim, California, Gary Matthews Jr. and Torii Hunter homered in the first inning and Los Angeles beat Baltimore despite a poor outing by still-unbeaten Joe Saunders.

Saunders (6-0) threw 85 pitches over five innings in the shortest of his seven starts. The left-hander allowed four runs and a career-high 12 hits, struck out one and walked none.

Saunders became the third pitcher in Angels history to start a season 6-0 or better, joining teammate Jered Weaver (9-0 in 2006) and Aaron Sele (7-0 in 2004). Ervin Santana gets a chance to join that list on Monday

### Blue Jays 4, White Sox 3

In Toronto Roy Halladay won for the first time in four starts, Matt Stairs scored twice and drove in two runs and Toronto handed Chicago its seasonhigh fifth straight loss.

Halladay (3-4) had thrown complete games in his previous four starts, but lost the last three. He lasted 7 1-3 innings in this one, giving up three runs one earned—and three hits. Halladay walked none and struck out seven.

Toronto has won a season-high four straight after losing eight of nine.

### Royals 2, Indians 0

In Cleveland, Gil Meche pitched seven shutout innings, a throwing error by third baseman Casey Blake broke a

aided double to Frank Thomas and Cust's third homer in four games.

A's starter Greg Smith gave up German Duran's first major-league home run leading off the third and then retired 12 of the final 14 hitters he faced. Smith gave up one run and three hits. He walked two and struck out a career-high 10.

#### **Houston 8, Brewers 6**

In Houston, Hunter Pence hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the 12th to lead the Houston Astros to a win over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Pence's home run to left field scored Lance Berkman and completed Houston's comeback for its third straight win. The Astros trailed by as many as four.

Mitch Stetter (1-1) gave up Pence's homer, his fourth of the season.

homestand 8-3.

### Phillies 6, Giants 5

In Philadelphia, Pat Burrell had two doubles and two RBIs to lead the Phillies past the Giants for manager Charlie Manuel's 500th career victory.

Shane Victorino had two hits and Carlos Ruiz homered for the Phillies. Philadelphia won in the bottom of the ninth when second baseman Eugenio Velez couldn't handle Geoff Jenkins' sharp grounder, allowing Ryan How-

In Atlanta, Chipper Jones drove in five runs and the Atlanta Braves scored seven runs in the second inning and beat

Jones hit his ninth homer-a three-run shot off Bronson Arroyo in the seven-run second. Kelly Johnson was 4-for-6 and Mark Kotsay was 3-for-4 with a homer.

with a walk.

#### **Rockies 7, Dodgers 2**

four-game losing streak.

(5-1) stopped a Rockies' losing streak, and for the third straight start he ended a fourgame losing streak. The Rockies are 6-1 when Cook starts and 6-18 in other games.

#### Mets 5, **Diamondbacks 2**

In Phoenix, First baseman Conor

The Mets won at Arizona for the 15th time in 17 tries and handed the Diamondbacks' just their second series loss of the season. The only other series Arizona lost was its season-opening

three-game set at Cincinnati.

With the score tied at 2 in the ninth, Beltran and Moises Alou singled off reliever Chad Qualls. Carlos Delgado grounded to Jackson, who overthrew shortstop Augie Ojeda to allow Bel-

### Cardinals 5, Cubs 3

At St. Louis, Albert Pujols reached base for the 32nd consecutive game, one shy of his personal best to start the year, and did it with a key two-run double in the fourth inning that was the go-ahead hit in the Cardinals' victory over the Cubs.

ard to score from second.

### **Braves 14, Reds 7**

the Cincinnati Reds 14-7 on Sunday to

complete a three-game sweep.

Arroyo (1-4) lasted only 1 1-3 innings, the shortest of his 166 career starts. His ERA climbed to 8.63 as he gave up seven hits and seven runs

In Denver, Aaron Cook gave the Rockies the strong outing they needed, Matt Holliday had two hits and two RBIs and the Rockies beat the Dodgers to end a

It was the fifth time Cook

Jackson's ninth inning throwing error allowed Carlos Beltran to score the go-ahead run from second and the Mets went on to beat the Diamondbacks.

tran to score.

Todd Wellemeyer (3-1) beat the team that drafted him in 2000 and gave him his first shot in the major leagues with five solid innings, helping the Cardinals take two of three from their Central Division rival. All three games were sold out, the first capacity crowds since opening day, including attendance of 44,969 in the finale.

### Bears' Benson arrested on intoxicated boating charge



AUSTIN, Texas (AP)— Chicago Bears running back Cedric Benson was charged with failing a sobriety test while operating a 30-foot

boat, then resisting arrest before being hit with pepper spray and dragged ashore by officers.

Benson faces charges of boating while intoxicated and resisting arrest after the incident Saturday night on Lake Travis, Travis County Sheriff's Department spokesman Roger Wade said Sunday.

Benson was released from jail early Sunday on a \$14,500 bond. The charges are class B misdemeanors, each punishable by up to six months in jail and a \$2,000 fine. A call to Benson's agent was not immediately returned.

Benson was operating the boat with 15 passengers aboard when he was stopped by a Lower Colorado River Authority officer for a random safety inspection. He failed a field sobriety test on the officer's boat and was uncooperative when the officer tried to take him ashore, the authority said.

"When Benson did not pass the test, he presented himself as a threat to the officer and argued about whether or not he would be taken to land to have a followup field sobriety test performed on land and refused to put on a life jacket," the authority said in a statement.

The officer had to use pepper spray to subdue Benson. He then refused to leave the officer's boat and authorities had to drag him to a car to be taken to the Travis County jail, the authority said.

Chicago coach Lovie Smith said he's still trying to figure out exactly what happened in Texas.

"I haven't had a chance to speak with Cedric yet, but any time we're talking about one of our players getting arrested you're disappointed in it," Smith said Sunday at the end of the Bears' three-day rookie minicamp in Lake Forest, Ill.

Bears officials said general manager Jerry Angelo was out of town Sunday and unavailable to comment.

Benson has had legal problems before. He was sentenced to eight days in jail in 2003 for a misdemeanor trespassing charge after forcing his way into an apartment to look for a reported stolen TV. In 2002, misdemeanor drug and alcohol charges against him were dropped.

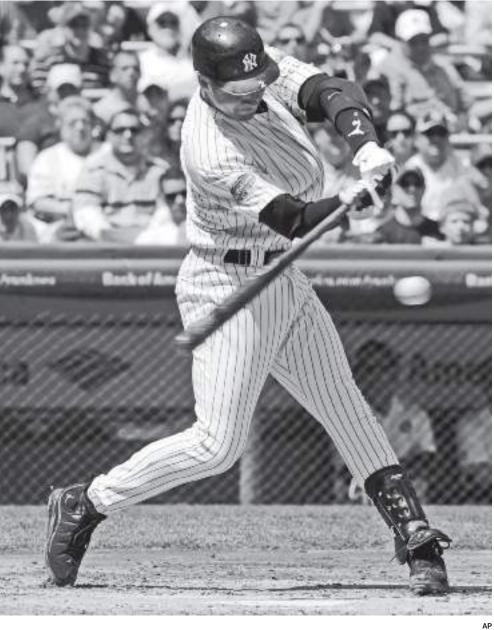
Benson rushed for more than 5,500 yards and 64 touchdowns at the University of Texas, going for 1,000 yards in four straight seasons.

The 25-year-old has done little since the Bears took him with the fourth pick of the 2005 draft.

As a rookie he couldn't beat out Thomas Jones and rushed for 272 yards in nine games. He was more effective the next season while sharing time with Jones, going for six touchdowns and 647 yards.

Last year, Benson took over as the featured back after Jones was traded away. He rushed for 674 yards, four touchdowns and 3.4 yards a carry before going on injured reserve in November.

In three years with the Bears, Benson has rushed for 1,593 yards and 10 touchdowns, averaging 3.8 yards a carry. He's also missed 13 games.



New York Yankees' Derek Jeter singles against the Seattle Mariners during the third inning of a baseball game Sunday, May 4, 2008 at Yankee Stadium in New York.

scoreless tie and Kansas City beat Marlins 10, Padres 3 Cleveland.

scored the Indians 6-2 in sweeping the two-game series. Friday night's game was rained out.

Blake's error made a loser of Aaron Laffey (0-2), who didn't allow a hit until Olivo singled with two outs in the fifth.

### Athletics 3, Rangers 1

In Oakland, California, Jack Cust's two-run homer in the seventh inning helped Oakland end the Rangers' fourgame winning streak.

Santiago Casilla (1-0) threw a scoreless seventh for the win, and has yet to allow a run in his 16 1-3 innings.

Rangers' starter Scott Feldman (0-1) took a three-hit shutout into the seventh inning before allowing a sun-

In Miami, Greg Maddux failed in his Miguel Olivo added a solo homer fourth bid to reach 350 victories, when Miller in a loss to Florida.

> Maddux (2-3) twice failed to hold a lead, and he allowed 11 hits and five runs, four earned, in 5 2-3 innings.

> Miller (2-2) earned his seventh career win with his best performance since joining the Marlins in the offseason trade that sent Dontrelle Willis and Miguel Cabrera to Detroit.

### **Nationals 5, Pirates 2**

In Washington, Tim Redding allowed one run over 6 1-3 innings, Aaron Boone homered and the Nationals beat the Pirates.

Redding (4-2) closed out an 11game homestand, Washington's longest of the season, by helping the Nationals to their sixth victory in

# Herbalizers win third straight

By JON PEREZ jon\_perez@saipantribune.com



Herbalizers got back into contention in the 9th Annual Pacific Islands Club-Miller Lite Spring Co-

ed 4-Person Beach Volleyball League at the PIC sand courts.

After losing its first three games, the Martin Castrocaptained Herbalizers chalk up three straight wins the last an 11-0, 11-9, 11-0 thrashing of

Spike'A'Sauras last Thursday.

Herbalizers climbed out of the cellar to tie their victims at sixth place with a 3-3 record behind league-leading Fatingali's unbeaten record, 5-0.

Kiss My Pass, which did not play last week, is also undefeated after four games followed by the 5-1 mark of 15 Of Fame and Angan's 3-1 slate. MHS Peers, which briefly enjoyed a taste of the lead, dropped to a 3-2 card.

Herbalizers last loss was a heart-breaking 11-9, 11-6, 11-9 decision against Tsunami

on April 23. They broke their three-game slide with back-toback come-from-behind wins over 670 Boom Boom, 5-11, 11-9, 11-5, and Snap Crackle Pop, 9-11, 11-6, 11-6, on April 29 and 30.

Their latest win proved they can go toe-to-toe with the rest of the competing teams.

Other members of Herbalizers are Larry Sharry, Greg Elliot, Julius Saito, Felicia McFarland, and Tiger lee.

In other Thursday games, Brabu downed MHS Okies, 11-1, 11-8, 11-7, while MHS Young Guns tripped MHS Peers, 11-6, 12-10, 11-3, and 15 Of Fame defeated Spiked Punch, 11-4, 11-5, 11-6.

On April 30, Kiss My Pass beat MHS Peers, 11-3, 11-8, 11-6, Spike'A'Sauras clipped Spiked Punch, 11-5, 11-5, 9-11, while Fatingali notched their fifth straight win with a 12-10, 11-3, 11-5 win over Tsunami.

Games today will have 670 Boom Boom, Brabu, Gigi, and Snap Crackle Pop test-

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

W

20 13

16 15

17 16

14 15

14 16

14 18

19 14

13 19

**NATIONAL LEAGUE** 

18

17 14

15

14

18 13

16 15

12 19

12 20

21 10

12 19

12

Yesterday's Games

Florida 10. San Diego 3

Atlanta 14, Cincinnati 7

Washington 5, Pittsburgh 2

Colorado 7, L.A. Dodgers 2

St. Louis 5, Chicago Cubs 3

N.Y. Yankees 8, Seattle 2

Boston 7, Tampa Bay 3

Minnesota 7. Detroit 6

Oakland 3, Texas 1

L.A. Angels 6, Baltimore 5

Quail Hollow Country Club course:

Ben Curtis (2700), \$691,200

Jason Bohn (1700), \$435,200

**Final Round** 

Kansas City 2. Cleveland 0

Toronto 4, Chicago White Sox 3

**WACHOVIA CHAMPIONSHIP** 

**SCORES** 

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP)—Scores from Sunday's

final round of the \$6.4 million (£4.12 million) Wachovia

Championship being played on the 7.442-vard, par-72

Anthony Kim (4500), \$1,152,000 70-67-66-69 272

69-71-72-65 277

68-67-72-71 278

N.Y. Mets 5. Arizona 2

Philadelphia 6. San Francisco 5

Houston 8. Milwaukee 6. 12 innings

**West Division** 

**Central Division** 

**West Division** 

**East Division** 

Philadelphia

Washington

New York

Florida

Atlanta

Chicago

Milwaukee

Pittsburgh

Cincinnati

Arizona

Colorado

San Diego

Los Angeles

San Francisco 14

Los Angeles 20

**Central Division** 

**East Division** 

Baltimore

Tampa Bay

New York

Minnesota

Kansas City

Cleveland

Detroit

Oakland

Chicago

**MLB STANDINGS** 

15

17

17

13

19

13

15

Pct

.606

.516

.516

.515

.533

.483

.467

.452

.438

.606

.576

.406

.563

.552

.548

.500

.625

.581

.516

.500

.387

.375

.677

.548

.438

.387

18

3

3

1 1/2

2

6 1/2

1/2

1/2

2

1 1/2

3 1/2

7 1/2

4

7 1/2

9

ing MHS Peers, 15 Of Fame, Spike'A'Sauras, and Fatingali. Games will be played from 5:30pm to 8:30pm.

Tomorrow, MHS Young Guns, MHS Okies, Kiss My Pass, and Angan will face Brabu, Spiked Punch, 15 Of Fame, Herbalizers. On Thursday, Brabu, 15 Of Fame, Gigi, and Spike'A'Sauras take on MHS Peers, MHS Okies, Tsunami, and Snap Crackel Pop.

Last year, top seed Limarh completed its amazing one-

loss season when they scored a 15-7 win over the Sand Smackers to win the title. They finished with a 10-1 card tallying 346 points, while limiting their opponents to 225 and winning 27 sets in the three-month long tournament.

For more information, call PIC entertainment manager John Waechter at PIC at 234-7976 ext. 5147 from Mondays to Fridays from 8am to 5pm or email him at sportsmanager@ picsaipan.com.

### **MENDIOLA**

From Page 28

fly-out to center fielder Justin Reves to end the seventh.

John Reyes, who struck out in his first at bat, went 3-for-5 against H.J. Kim scoring one run and had a seventh-inning RBI triple. He had four RBIs and a stolen base.

Jason Reyes only went 1-for-2 slapped a two-RBI single that highlighted the Dreams' fourrun fourth inning that broke a 1-1 tie.

On April 28, 2005, champions Ford Rangers stunned reigning titlist Tanapag Falcons, 14-4.

Pete Tenorio, after giving up three runs one of which is earned, settled in after that pitching four two-hit and scoreless innings to earn the win. The Falcons scored again in

7:23, and ran 4:50 for a 16:12

Kento Akimaru bested Cole

Chambers and Steven Goodwin

in the boys' 8-and-under divi-

sion, while Kazumi Otake, who

tried his first individual race,

the sixth when J.D. Dikito, who got on base on an error by right fielder J.J. Laniyo, scored on a J.R. Suel single.

Tenorio retired the next three batters he faced in the bottom of the seventh. He walked Dustin Quitano, who advanced to second on a pass ball but the Falcons' second baseman was gunned down on a 2-6 putout play as CNMI all-star catcher Robert Bansil threw to shortstop Jess Iguel, who tagged Quitano as he tried to steal third base.

Tenorio then struck out Ned Norita then walked Falcons designated hitter Mike Pangelinan. Falcons' manager Doru Camacho then made an offensive change replacing Pangelinan with pinch runner Henry Reyes.

But Camacho's ploy did not materialize as Tenorio picked off Reyes at first base to end the game.

Akimaru timed in at 8:33 in

the 100m swim, 300m bike, and

300m run distance of the 8-and-

under class. Chambers clocked

in at 10:05 followed by Good-

win's 10:23. Otake was the sec-

ond fastest finisher in the divi-

It was Otake's first individual

Race organizer Michael Stew-

triathlon race after winning last

month's relay with Pia Tenorio.

sion with a total time of 9:55.

The Falcons played a sloppy game committing a season-high 15 errors, which is unusual for Rangers' scored eight times

hit parade going 3-for-4 with four runs, a double, three stolen bases, and two RBIs. Iguel went 3-for-5 and scored twice while Bansil went 2-for-4 with two runs scored, and Laniyo going 2-for-5 with one run.

run on four hits in the game rule. He also had one strikeout the Rangers defense.

bur at press time. No results were available as of this writing.

art congratulated all participants and thanked all parents and volunteers that helped him made the race safe for the kids. He also thanked the Marianas Resort & Spa for the use of the venue, and Topnotch and Saipan World Resort for the post-race prizes.

The next Kids XTEARRA Triathlon is scheduled on the morning of June 8, Sunday, at the Marpi pool grounds.

the defending champions. The with those errors. Mel Sakisat led the Rangers'

Tenorio gave up one earned shortened by the 10-run mercy and six walks while forcing the Falcons to hit grounders, fly outs, line drives, and infield fly, which was fielded cleanly by

The D9ers were playing Ka-

### topped the girls' side. RAPHAEL

From Page 28

TWO

From Page 28

Kitz Barja.

Ryan Gutierrez (579 pinfalls and 144.75 average), Marion McKenzie (563 and 140.75), and Toby Verdaguer (359 and 89.75) round out the six participants of the monthly Bing Prince/Princess of the Lanes.

In the Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes, Percy Omechalang leads the men's roll-off with a first day score of 850 (212.5 average), while Ron Cal is pacing the women with her 742 and 185.5.

Results of Day 2 of the two-

day King and Queen of the Lanes last night were still not available as of press time.

The Bing Prince/Princess of the Lanes as well as the Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes are sponsored by MAR-PAC. The tournaments are organized by the Saipan Bowling Association.

Merlie Savellano and Camille Samonte will meet Shirley Kim and Malou Malasarte in the bat-

Efren Cacdac and Angie Ito and Ana Rose Omori enjoy a twiceto-beat advantage in the men's and women's C division finals.

Navarro and Cacdac will meet Obet Aguilar and Sherwin Pusillos in the men's C final, while Ito and Omori will once again Lampera and Lherie Galvan.

In the mixed doubles, the

The duo of Balarao and Lot Abuel will face the Gary Bandoja-Lucelle Lampera team for the right to face Pineda and Bungalos.

In the lone Men's A division singles game, Achas will face Pruwajatan in the finals.

Robert Allenby (1200), \$307,200 70-70-73-66 279 Dudley Hart (950), \$243,200 71-67-70-72 280 Heath Slocum (950), \$243,200 71-68-68-73 280 71-67-71-72 Jim Furyk (838), \$214,400 Rod Pampling (700), \$179,200 71-70-75-66 282 Adam Scott (700) \$179 200 72-73-66-71 282 Fred Couples (700), \$179,200 72-69-69-72 Stewart Cink (700), \$179,200 73-70-65-74 Jesper Parnevik (490), \$125,440 71-74-71-67 Dean Wilson (490), \$125,440 71-69-74-69 71-70-71-71 283 Hunter Mahan (490), \$125,440 Phil Mickelson (490), \$125,440 72-73-65-73 283 Pat Perez (490), \$125,440 71-72-73-68 284 Mathew Goggin (350), \$89,600 David Toms (350), \$89,600 67-75-72-70 71-73-70-70 284 Ryuji Imada (350), \$89,600 J.B. Holmes (350), \$89,600 71-72-69-72 284 Vijay Singh (350), \$89,600 70-70-70-74 284 George McNeill (260), \$66,560 71-67-76-71 Steve Flesch (260), \$66,560 73-68-71-73 285 Geoff Ogilvy (260), \$66,560 70-70-69-76 285 73-72-72-69 286 Parker McLachlin (179), \$45,796 lan Poulter (179), \$45,796 71-71-74-70 James Driscoll (179) \$45,796 70-72-74-70 286 Zach Johnson (179), \$45,796 69-76-71-70 286 Kevin Stadler (179), \$45,796 75-70-71-70 286 Paul Goydos (179), \$45,796 71-69-75-71 286 Brian Davis (179), \$45,796 74-70-71-71 286 John Senden (179), \$45,796 72-71-71-72 Charles Howell III (179), \$45,796 75-68-70-73 286 Stephen Ames (126), \$32,320 69-75-74-69 Sergio Garcia (126), \$32,320 71-72-74-70 287 Michael Allen (126), \$32,320 73-70-73-71 287 Ken Duke (126), \$32,320 73-72-71-71 Todd Hamilton (126), \$32,320 72-71-72-72 287 John Merrick (126), \$32,320 69-71-73-74 287 Aaron Baddeley (88), \$22,428 73-71-74-70 Justin Bolli (88), \$22,428 73-71-73-71 288 Tommy Armour III (88), \$22,428 74-68-74-72 288 Andres Romero (88), \$22,428 72-71-72-73 288 Steve Marino (88), \$22,428 69-71-74-74 288 Robert Garrigus (88), \$22,428 74-68-72-74 Brad Adamonis (88), \$22,428 70-70-74-74 288 Nick Watney (88), \$22,428 73-69-71-75 288 Nick O'Hern (88), \$22,428 71-70-71-76 Boo Weekley (62), \$15,795 72-70-76-71 289 71-73-74-71 289 Troy Matteson (62), \$15,795 Kenny Perry (62), \$15,795 74-71-73-71 289 D.J. Trahan (62), \$15,795 71-73-73-72 289 Shaun Micheel (62), \$15,795 76-69-71-73 289 Jeff Quinney (58), \$14,848 69-73-73-75 290 Carl Pettersson (56), \$14,336 72-73-74-72 291 73-69-76-73 291 Brandt Snedeker (56), \$14,336 Jav Williamson (56), \$14.336 70-70-77-74 291 Carlos Franco (56), \$14.336 72-70-75-74 291 Billy Mayfair (56), \$14,336 74-67-76-74 Rocco Mediate (56), \$14,336 69-70-77-75 291 Camilo Villegas (56), \$14,336 Steve Lowery (53), \$13,568 70-72-77-73 292 Y.E. Yang (53), \$13,568 73-69-76-74 292 Matt Kuchar (53), \$13,568 73-72-73-74 292 Patrick Sheehan (53), \$13,568 74-71-73-74 292 Nathan Green (53), \$13,568 73-72-70-77 292 Rory Sabbatini (51), \$13.120 70-72-77-74 293 Mark Wilson (51), \$13,120 74-71-71-77 293 Lucas Glover (51), \$12,928 73-70-72-80 295 Rich Beem (50), \$12,736 72-71-75-78 296 69-75-74-78 296 Nick Flanagan (50), \$12,736 Angel Cabrera (49), \$12,544 71-74-73-82 300

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### **LOCAL SCORES**

### **SML Standings**

1.000 Rock Steady 7 0 Tanapag Falcons 5 2

.667 2 1/2 Ford Rangers 2 625 Korean Dreams 5 3 2 1/2 D9ers 3 .571 Kabur 5 .167 5 1/2 .143 Tigers 6 6 .125 6 1/2 Komoro **SML Leaders Batting** 

	Team	AB	Hit	Batting	ĺ
Manny Sablan	Rock Steady	27	13	.481	
Greg F. Camacho	D9ers	27	13	.481	
John Reyes	Korean Dreams	34	16	.470	
Jesse Iguel	Ford Rangers	27	12	.444	
Byrone Kaipat	Rock Steady	25	11	.440	
Jae Young Kim	Komoro	24	10	.417	
John Tenorio	D9ers	24	10	.417	
Justin Reyes Korea	an Dreams	34	14	.411	
Tony Celis	Rock Steady	27	11	.407	
Tony C. Camacho	D9ers	25	10	.400	

Runs: (17) Tyrone Omar; (16) George Camacho; (14) Justin Reyes, (13) John Reyes, (12) Jesse Iguel, Tony Camacho, Dane Lizama, and

Doubles: (4) Manny Sablan, Tony Celis; (3) Justin Reyes, Greg Camacho, John Tenorio, Dave Kapileo, (2) 8 Players

Triples: (4) Jason Reyes; (3) Nick San Nicolas; (2) Shane Mendiola and John Reves.

Home runs: (1) Poland Masaharu, Dennis Cruz, Tony Manibusan, Oliver Secharmidal, John Reyes, Lee Ho Kyun, Jae Young Kim.

RBI: (13) John Tenorio; (9) Manny Sablan; (8) Shane Mendiola; (7) Tony Camacho, B.J. Sablan, Tyrone Omar, Luis Iguel, Oliver Secharmidal.

### **Pitching**

Team G Inn ER H W-L ERA Tony Palacios Rock Steady 3 18 1 7 3-0 0.50 Pete Tenorio Rangers 2 11 1 10 2-0 0.82 Ford Rangers 3 25 2 6 31 1-2 210 Mel Sakisat McGregory Camacho Falcons 3 11.1 4 17 2-0 3.17 Kim Jeb Young Korean Dreams 6 39.2 14 32 1-3 3.23 Lerov Dela Cruz D9ers 6 22 2 10 31 4-1 3 97 Joab Thomas Korean Dreams 4 16.2 8 13 2-1 4.32 Korean Dreams 7 34.2 19 40 3-1 4.93 Shane Mendiola Ren Duenas Tigers 7 52.1 29 99 1-5 4.98 Darwin Masaharu Kabur 3 12 7 23 0-1 5.25

Strikeouts: (88) Jae Young Kim; (66) Shane Mendiola; (29) Hyung Joo Kim.

PA

#### **NMIVA Standings** W I PF

	vv		1.1	17	OVI
Fatingali	5	0	163	99	14
Kiss My Pass	4	0	119	76	10
15 Of Fame	4	1	156	105	12
Angan	3	1	104	112	7
MHS Peers	3	2	124	131	7
Herbalizers	3	3	169	145	10
Spike'A'Sauras	3	3	124	157	6
670 Boom Boom	2	2	111	95	7
Gigi	2	2	101	118	4
Tsunami	2	3	105	132	6
Snap Crackle Pop	1	3	102	117	3
Brabu	1	4	114	134	6
MHS Okies	1	4	132	123	6
MHS Young Gunz	1	4	117	149	5
Spiked Punch	1	4	106	147	5

PF-Points scored by team PA-Points scored against team

### **MICHELOB**

From Page 28

win Samson.

The pair of Saul Gargallo and Roger Vales will contest the last finals berth against the tandem of Robert Reyes and Gerry Balarao with the loser facing Ariel Mariano and Sherwin Samson in the battle for third place.

The duo of Babes Cielo and Loyda Ito will face off with the tandem of Marlene Peraja and Emily Vargas in the Women's B

division finals after both teams finished with identical 5-1 cards.

tle for third place.

The pairs of Paul Navarro and

test the partnership of Lucelle

pair of Malasarte and Vales will clash with Cacdac and Loyda Ito in the finals, while June Pineda and Janice Bungalos are waiting for their third place match op-

# World-ranked netters to play in GITO

Some of the top, internationallyranked players in Australia, Hawaii, and the Asia-Pacific region will compete for cash and prizes in a new competition format at the 5th Annual Guam International Tennis Open at the Hilton Guam Resort & Spa tennis courts.

This year's tournament, in preparation for the hosting of a professional-level tournament, will feature an invitational 16-Player Males Singles Challenge and an 8-Team Doubles Draw.

The goal of the Guam International Tennis Open is to become a pointsearning profes-

sional level tournament.

Confirmed players for the singles challenge include Thailand's Danai Udomchoke, currently ranked No. 197 in the world. Just a little over a year ago, Udomchoke was ranked No. 77 in the world. Udomchoke played in all four tennis grand slam events in 2007, including advancing to the third round of the Australian Open before losing to champion Roger Federer in four sets. His doubles

rank is No. 289 in the world

Satoshi Iwabuchi, 2008 Japan Davis Cup team member and ranked No. 356 in the world as a singles player, also is confirmed to play in the tournament. His career high singles ranking was No. 223 in the world. His career high ranking for doubles is 125 in the world, set in September 2006, according to the ATP tennis website.

Iwabuchi has participated in all grand slam tournaments

> (Australian Open, Wimbledon, French Open, U.S. Open) in both

singles and doubles.

5th Annual
Guam International

Tennis Open

Another confirmed new face for this tournament is Ikaika Jobe from Hawaii, whose highest ranking in the world was 787, set in November of last year. In doubles, his current world ranking is 489, although he was ranked as high as 479 just last month. His doubles partner, Brad Lum-Tucker, also is confirmed to play in this year's GITO.

Rounding out the 16-player



singles draw are last year's winner from Korea, Min Hyeok Cho, ranked 850 in the world, three of his compatriots also world-ranked and the top junior players from Australia. Top juniors from Australia include Andrew Gregory, Matt Klein, and Marvin Barker, who have competed in the junior division of Grand Slam tournaments.

The 16-Player Males Singles

Challenge and 8-Team Doubles Draw Invitational is scheduled to begin May 28.

Finals, for singles and doubles events, are scheduled for June 1. will include other world ranked players from Australia, South Korea, Japan, and the Philippines.

Prior to the invitational portion of the tournament will be all age and skill divisions. This year, the GITO will feature two additional divisions—the 2.0 and the 5.0 division. This division will be added to the existing 3.0, 4.0, and 35+. The skill and age divisions will be played May 21 through May 25. Each division will feature five events-men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles events. For 2008, players will compete for an \$11,000 total prize purse.

All tournament matches will be played at the Hilton Guam Resort & Spa's tennis courts under the direction of the Tennis Academy of Guam. The entry deadline for all divisions is May 15 with a \$35 registration fee for two events. Entry forms in English and Japanese may be downloaded from the tournament website at www. guamopen.com.

Forms may also be requested by calling the Hilton marketing communications office at (671) The invitational singles challenge 646-1820, ext. 5501. (PR)

### PTI sponsors 2008 Inter-Government Basketball League

Basketball is one of the most popular sports in the CNMI and PTI, the CNMI's communications leader, recently signed on to help local cagers by sponsoring the newly named PTI Inter-Government Basketball League.

PTI's donation means that all of the teams fielded by government agencies will pay a reduced amount for their respective registration fees when they take the court for the opening tipoff on Monday, May 12, at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

According to league coordinator Joey Dela Cruz, the 13-team field will include defending champion Office of the Public Auditor and last year's runner-up Northern Marianas College-Proa.

Returning to gain a piece of the championship pie are the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Commonwealth Health Center, Department of Corrections, Airport Rescue Fire Fighters, Tinian, Aguaguat, Ports Police, Legislature, Fire, Department of Public Works/ Procurement and Supply, and Mayor's Office.

PTI regularly supports youth and adult teams in a vast number of sporting events as part of its continuing commitment to the people of the CNMI. Sponsoring the PTI Inter-Government Basketball League is just another way the company that bills itself as "Your connection to the world" to stay connected to its roots here in the CNMI. (PR)



PTI Inter-Government Basketball League coordinators Joey Dela Cruz, left, and Mario Sablan pose with PTI Marketing Associate Brad E. Ruszala, right, after finalizing the sponsorship arrangements between PTI and the Division of Sports and Recreation.

### 20 teams expected for 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament

By MARK RABAGO

mark rabago@saipantribune.com ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club is expecting 20 twoman teams to take part in its 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament set for May 17 in the waters around Saipan-save for sanctuaries.

MASC vice president Felix Sasamoto said the competition will be from 6am and finish at 3:30pm. Participants, however, should check in at the Smiling Cove Marina by 5am for gear inspection.

Registration fee is \$40 per diver and will entitle them to an event T-shirt, MASC car sticker, and food and drinks during competition day.

Categories up for grabs are at 7pm at the AquaSmith shop in heaviest weight—for individual

and teamand biggest species.

Sasamoto said the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament has categories for up to 10 different

type of species. Winners will take home cash and in-kind prizes such as spearguns and a lot of giveaways.

pan. While registration forms, rules and regulation forms, and flyers will be given out, the meeting will also serve as an election for MASC's new set of officers for

In related news, Sasamoto

said all participants, volunteers,

boaters, and other interested in-

dividuals are invited to attend

today's organization meeting set

the 2nd floor of M2M building

2008, according to Sasamoto. The 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament's sponsors include MARPAC, Palms Resort & Spa, Sen. Luis Crisostomo, Rep. Ralph Torres, Saipan Fishing Tackle, The Torres Brothers, Saipan Fishermen Association, Marianas Visitors Authority, O.M.E.R., Cressisub, Pacifica Insurance, and Sen. Maria Frica T. Pangelinan.

MASC is also looking for volunteers and boaters to help during the event. To help or for more information about 2nd Annual Spearfishing Tournament, call MASC president Morito Asai at 483-7625/233-5055 or Sasamoto at 898-8155.

### **Tigers gore Housekeeping** in Tinian Dynasty caging

By JON PEREZ



Defending champion F&B Service Tigers further sharpened its claws in

the 7th Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino Inter-Departmental Basketball League at the TDHC staff house court.

It was the second straight win for the defending champion Tigers after waltzing past FO/ Housekeeping, 94-68, in Sunday's opening match of a scheduled doubleheader.

Housekeeping was coming off a morale-boosting 77-51 triumph over last year's finalist F&B Chefs last week.

But the flare and spunk that they flashed against the Chefs was missing when they faced the Tigers, which led by as much as 27 points after three quarters to cruise to the easy win.

The Tigers used its height and quickness to the hilt. It also didn't hurt that they have played together for so many years.

Charlie Fernandez led four other Tigers that finished in double digits, pumping in a game-high 30 points, while Godo Flores added 19 more. Three other players finished with 18, 14, and 11 each.

Joel Miranda paced Housekeeping with 21 points, while Gaby "Ginobili" Cajayon added 17 but no other player scored 10 points or more.

In the second game, Finance/ Shipping Department bounced back from its opening day loss to the Tigers by dealing the Chefs a 96-66 trouncing.

Joey "Caguioa" Garcia powered his way inside the paint to keep the Chefs' in the game.

Injuries, however, took its toll for the Chefs as Garcia sprained his ankle that forced him to sit out the remainder of the match. The Chefs were already missing the streak shooting J.P. Garcia, who re-injured his knee.

With the Garcia out, Finance's Dennis Espiritu took over going 3-for-3 from the 3-point area to lead his team's breakaway. He finished with 22 points while getting a lot of help from three of his teammates who scored 21, 18, and 12 markers.

Joey Garcia managed to score 20 points before being sidelined due to injury.

### **First Game**

F&B Service Tigers 94 - Fernandez 30, Flores 19, Sabordo 18, Gammad 14, Pavino 11, Dancel 2.

FO/Housekeeping 68 – Miranda 21, Cajayon 17, Laurio 8, Agader 7, Patron 4, Divinagracia 4, Lauron 3 Lumayag 2 Carreon 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-12, 51-30, 68-41, 94-68.

Referees: Don Sarmiento, Romy Libut, and MarioMorilla.

### **Second Game**

Finance/Shipping 96 - Espiritu 22, Bustillos 21, Piol 18, Malimban 12, Manriquez 8, Torregosa 7, Gerogalin 6, Rosales 2.

F&B Chefs 66 - J. Garcia 20, Mabansag 11, Apostol 10, Gornez 8, Manalo 7, Marquez 4, J.P. Garcia 4, Capungan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-18, 44-30, 75-51, 96-66.

Referees: Mario Morilla, Robert Valiente, Don Sarmiento.

**Host DJ:** Peachy Perdiguerra.



### **World-ranked netters** to play in GITO

Some of the top, internationallyranked players in Australia, Hawaii and the Asia-Pacific region will compete for cash and prizes in a new

competition format at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Guam International Tennis Open at the Hilton Guam Resort & Spa tennis courts.

Saipan Tribune Sports

#### Kim is youngest PGA **Tour winner in 6 years**

Knee surgery prevented Tiger Woods from attempting to defend his Wachovia Championship title. Anthony Kim didn't disappoint fans at Quail Hollow Club looking for Tiger-like brilliance.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

**28** TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008

# Mendiola pitches Dreams to win



Shane Mendiola of the Korean Dreams prepares to bunt in this file photo taken in one of their games in the 3rd Budweiser-Saipan Major League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field. Mendiola pitched a complete game in the Dreams' 8-5 win over Komoro last week.

By JON PEREZ

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hane Mendiola won a pitching duel against Hyung Joo Kim to lead the Korean Dreams to an 8-5 win over Komoro in last week's game in the 3rd Annual Budweiser-Saipan Major League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

44 strikeouts, which can be conno relief and had 23 strikeouts to sidered as the most in the SML's break single-game record of 20 25-year history. They each had set by Joe Atalig and Tony Be-

strikeouts as they nearly matched the 23 made by Komoro's Jae Young Kim on March 6.

J.Y. Kim set a new SML singlegame strikeout record but failed to lead Komoro to victory in their

navente in different vears.

Atalig established the record of 20 strikeouts on Oct. 17, 1982,

while Benavente duplicated the feat on March 26, 1999.

Mendiola pitched a complete Both pitchers combined for 2-8 loss to D9ers. He pitched in game giving up three earned runs

on three hits hitting three batters by a pitch and walking six more. He held Komoro to a 3-for-30 batting or a .100 average.

Only J.Y. Kim managed to sneak in three hits against Mendiola as he went 3-for-4 with two runs, two stolen bases, and one RBI. He had a lead-off double in the second inning and singles each in the fourth and sixth before Mendiola forced him to

See MENDIOLA on Page 26

## Raphael wins 3rd Bing tournament

By MARK RABAGO

ASSISTANT EDITOR



Raphael Zapanta won his third Bing Prince/ Princess of the Lanes Tenpin

Bowling Tournament of the year last Sunday, adding to his victories in the February and March editions of the monthly competition.

Zapanta outdueled April champion Zack Cruz to take home the monthly plum held at the Saipan Bowling Center in San Jose.

The 13-year-old Chacha Junior High School student edged Cruz by a mere 12 pins, 658-646, following a four-game roll-off of 180, 170, 143, and 165 that allowed him to finish with an average of 164.5 pinfalls.

Cruz, meanwhile, was in the running for a second consecutive Bing victory after putting together rolls of 167, 142, and 162 his first three trips to bowling lanes. He would've

Raphael Zapanta outdueled April champion Zack Cruz en route to winning his third Bing Prince/Princess the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament of the year last Sunday at the Saipan Bowling Center in San Jose.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

beaten Zapanta if he knocked down more than 187 pins in the fourth and final game, but it was not to be as he settled for runner-up honors with a 175 to conclude the tournament with a 161.5 pinfall average.

Troy Verdaguer's 590 pinfalls and 147.5 average, meanwhile, was good enough for third place and allowed him to make it into the money list.

Zapanta, Cruz, and Verdaguer earned \$20, \$15, and \$10 for their performances. They also took home a case

of Anchor Milk courtesy of Micronesian Brokers, Inc. and its affable general manager See RAPHAEL on Page 26



### Michelob badminton finals today

By JON PEREZ

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divisions of the Inaugural Michelob Ul-

tra Badminton Tournament will be played today with six pairs and one singles player set to be crowned at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Tournament coordinator Macoi Aguda moved the finals today instead of last Saturday, when the knockout phase of the mixed doubles class was instead played. Games start at 6pm.

The inaugural tournament is supported in part by Michelob-MARPAC, At Your Service, SaipanCell, JET Holdings, PMIC, Serenity Salon, Elegance Café,

NIC, Canton Restaurant, National Office Supply, Makeover Beauty Salon, Megavision, Venus Beauty The finals Salon, Vargas Construction, Esolutions Inc., Philippine Consul General Wilfredo Maximo, and N.C. Matsumoto.

All finals and tie-breaker matches will be played in a regular race-to-21 best-two-outof-three sets.

The men's A doubles crown will be contested by the pairs of Lito Mendoza and Ryan Achas and Wijay Pruwajatan and John Nguyen after they both finished with similar 3-1 records.

In the men's B division, Joseph Santos and Alvin Alvarez are waiting for their finals opponent after they compiled a 5-1 record, losing only by default against Ariel Mariano and Sher-

See MICHELOB on Page 26



By JON PEREZ

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Maxi Braig and Nuri Gutzwiller-Malakut returned to the winners' circle of their respective age groups in the second edition of the Kids

XTEARRA Triathlon Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool grounds.

Braig and Gutzwiller-Malakut continue to dominate their respective divisions with another amazing finishes in the 9-10 and 11-12 age groups.

Braig completed the 200m swim, 800m bike, and 400m run in 12 minutes and 56 seconds, while Gutzwiller-Malakut compiled a time of 12:55 in the 300m swim, 800m bike, and 400m run.

Andrew Kimball placed second to Braig in the 9-10 division with a combined time of 13:17 while Misaki Cramer came in third with 15:17. Bryce Daly swam 3:59, biked See TWO on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Winners in the second Kids XTEARRA Triathlon, from left, Kento Akimaru, Maxi Braig, Kazumi Otake, and Nuri Gutzwiller-Malakut pose with their medals and race organizer Michael Stewart last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool grounds.